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COMPUTING & HIGH TECH

## COMPUTER COMPANIES

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## Celebrating their 20th anniversary: Comcent '92 looks to the future

By Zaid Nasser  
Special to The Star

COMCENT TRADING and Contracting Co. held a computer exhibition, "Comcent '92", to celebrate 20 years of working in the Jordanian computer sector. The show was opened on Tuesday 19 March under the patronage of HRH Prince Hassan and ran from 20 to 22 of this month.

The show was a success and attracted a considerable number of visitors, especially last Thursday, and included a wide variety of computer hardware, supplies and software. The exhibition was spread out across a medium-sized hall in the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.

In front of the entrance was a very interesting desktop electronic filing system from Canon called the Canofile 250 (pictured below), using an erasable magnet optical disk with a storage capacity of half a gigabyte, capable of holding around 13,000 A4 size documents. The operation was very impressive, since the Canofile 250 follows an easy-to-use indexing system by simply pressing a group of buttons attached to the bottom of the screen. All the functions are fully automatic and the system offers the simplest storage and retrieval of documents I've ever seen. The full system includes a Canon Diskfile Drive, laser printer, keyboard and main unit including screen, scanning unit and CPU.

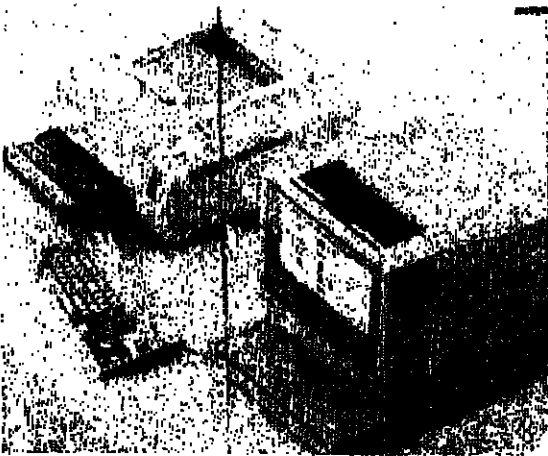
There were some very good deals available at the "Supplies and Accessories" stand, especially boxes including ten CIS disks for JD 5,601. There was also a variety of plugs, connections, dust-covers and other excellent accessories on display. I was especially interested in the good



Scenes from the opening of the Comcent '92 show

deal on offer regarding a ProLab 256 Gray Hand-Held Scanner with PaintBrush for just over JD100.

The Citizen printers on show included the full range available with a very small portable printer in action which was a main attraction to visitors called the Citifile.



zen PN48a portable printer. It offers 2 laser quality fonts and includes a rechargeable battery. Citizen is pushing it by claiming that it is "probably the smallest A4 printer available." Other portable hardware included a couple of models of Mitac Notebook PCs including a 386 CPU and internal fax.

The software on show included impressive applications and demonstrations developed by the

companies' developers and programmers. There's a complete banking solution on offer including easy to use software, networked hardware (mostly Wang terminals running on a Novell Network) and support. Then there's a signature verification demo which is being developed for banking applications to replace the use of microfilm to verify signatures. A signature is scanned with any hand-held scanner and then stored and compressed to 10 per cent of the original size.

It has to be said that there was something for everybody at the show and the Comcent team should be given credit for making Comcent '92 a success and being very hospitable and friendly to visitors.

### GCE prepare for computer Expo. early next month

The computer exhibition craze that's sweeping the Jordanian computer market will continue into June with General Computer & Electronics (GCE) holding their annual computer expo, starting 2 June. The company is an IBM authorized dealer and also distributes Tating PCs. The show promises to be a treat for PC users and will include the latest in hardware and software.

## Apple Expo '92 opens today

UNDER THE patronage of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Bin Shaker, Ideal Systems' annual Apple Expo, opens its doors to the public today Thursday 28 May. The expo will run until Saturday 30 May at the Amman Marriott Hotel, under the slogan of "Endless choices with us."

The show will cover all the fields in which the Macintosh is used including accounting, databases, spreadsheet analysis, networking, word processing, research, forecasting, education, health care, programming, CAD/CAM, engineering, design, publishing, illustration, animation, music, multimedia and entertainment. It will follow a system of booths, as this has proven to be a rather successful formula.

Participating in the show are a group of Jordanian companies and institutions showing how they have applied the Macintosh to their solutions. These include Al-Quds Open University at the "Multimedia" booth, showing their application of Macintosh technology in the field of open education. At the "Business" booth there'll be the Amman Bank; Jerusalem Intermarkets are giving demonstrations on the use of Macintosh for commercial design in the field of advertising at the "Graphics" booth and Plans Engineering Bureau will be at the "Engineering" booth with their complete Mac solution for architectural design. International

## Seminar Schedule

## ■ Thursday May 28th

**10:30 AM Ideal Accounting**  
The Arabic/English user-friendly accounting environment, balance sheet, general ledger and a full report for your accountant.

**12:00 PM Engineering**  
A seminar on engineering solutions for structural engineers, draftsmen, project managers and architects.

**4:30 PM Presentation**  
The latest tools for organizations that use presentations in Arabic and English.

**6:30 PM Quick Time**  
Presenting information through color, graphics, sound and animation, multimedia applications in different fields.

## ■ Friday May 29th

**10:30 AM Open Systems**  
What is really behind the Apple/IBM alliance? What is an Open System? Why an Open System?

**12:00 PM Abjad Ilawaz**  
The most powerful Macintosh Arabic spell checker and dictionary.

**4:30 PM Communications**  
The networking power of the Macintosh with any mini, main-frame computers and others in Arabic or English.

**6:30 PM Arabic Educational Software**  
Come and see the new methods of teaching in a hierarchical, interactive and amusing manner in the Arabic language.

## ■ Saturday May 30th

**10:30 AM The Powerful Executive**  
If you're an executive on the move, you need to send and receive faxes/E-mail from almost anywhere, query data bases and retrieve important files. You need a PowerBook.

**12:00 PM Advanced Publishing and Printing**  
Featuring image processing, color separation and advanced publishing software.

**4:30 PM Graphics in Arabic**  
New Arabic solutions for Publishers, Graphic Designers and others.

**6:30 PM Automating the Office**  
Are you thinking of automating your office? This session will address the daily office tasks using the Mac.

We would like to apologize to Ideal Systems Co. for last week's mistake. We said that the Apple Expo '92 slogan was "Endless solutions with us" when it should have been "Endless choices with us". Yes, that's "choices" not "solutions". Sorry!

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**The Star**  
Jordanian newspaper

# The Star

**Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly**

AMMAN, 4 — 10 JUNE 1992, VOLUME 3, NUMBER 12

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AMMAN



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cannot do

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## RJ opens new routes Air traffic to Jordan regains pre-War levels

By Hind-Lara Mango  
Special to The Star

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) is up and about opening new lines, expanding existing ones and planning confidently for the future. In fact air traffic to and from Jordan is regaining its pre-Gulf War levels. While RJ is busy opening routes to Berlin, Athens and Jakarta, foreign carriers that had suspended their services to Amman during the war are back. Travellers, travel agents and avia-

tion officials are all happy and for a good reason.

Still RJ has had to take a number of stations off its destinations' list. Regular flights to Tripoli, Belgrade and Baghdad have all been suspended for the time being for political not economic reasons.

On the other hand, after a two-year suspension, Royal Jordanian (RJ) has resumed its regular flights to Athens. RJ had suspended its flights to the Greek capital because of industrial dis-

rupts the carrier's Greek employees, according to RJ's Senior Vice-president of Marketing and Services Mr Akel Biltaji.

Royal Jordanian will also be launching a fifth flight to New York flying onto Montreal and Toronto twice a week.

Meanwhile, Emirates, Saudia and Gulf Air airlines have all resumed service to Amman. Biltaji related the resumption of lines to Jordan as being due to "the increase in traffic, economic feasibility and increased interest in



Biltaji

Jordan."

He added that there has been a 26 per cent increase in traffic from Europe, going way beyond all former expectations. Despite

financial problems, this means that Royal Jordanian can pocket some extra money from operational cost revenues.

RJ is launching a new service to Berlin bringing the number of flights to Germany to six weekly. Another flight has been added to the existing five flights to London. RJ will also be flying to Moscow between 16 June and 16 September, carrying Jordanian students to and from the Russian capital.

On 18 June RJ will open a regular service to the Indonesian capital, Jakarta. Two weekly flights will go directly to Singapore, while another will go via Kuala Lumpur.

Biltaji explained that when opening new lines, Royal Jordanian has to take into account an operating plan, the resources available, equipment, traffic rights, yield and cost. He feels that "as far as our current and future plans are concerned, Jordan is doing well."

## Northern Telecom promotes digital equipment supplies in Jordan

By Pam Dougherty  
Special to The Star

FIVE HUNDRED wake-up calls every three minutes and guest phones with answering machine facilities — what hotel could ask for more? The Amman Marriott, the Jerusalem Hotel and the Amra have already decided that Northern Telecom of Canada have the service they need and Richard Kennell of NT's Amman regional office is quietly confident that many other Amman hotels will soon follow their lead.

As NT is the only foreign telecommunications company with a place in the Japanese market, Kennell is not surprised that it is also making a distinctive place for itself in the world, including Jordan.

In Amman this week the company held a special seminar to introduce its digital equipment to hospitality companies, government and industry.

NT's Digital PABX (private automatic branch exchange), now in use in the three Amman hotels, offers users a high level of flexibility and ease of use.

Callers can forget worries about hotel staff forgetting to hand on messages when each room has a phone that works as an answering machine. Staff are freed from routine work to offer better services when the checking-in procedure for guests automatically keys them into a system which will record all their phone calls and housekeeping and room services, making checking in and checking out faster for both staff and guests.

In the business sphere it is Northern Telecom's ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) networking that should set the technology buff's pulse racing. ISDN enables a company's employees in all locations to exchange both voice and data information.

By Christian Tyler

WHILE SCUD missiles dropped on Tel Aviv, Sari Nusseibeh sat in Ramla jail reviewing a book on medieval logic.

Locked in a small cell for 23 hours a day, he also studied the Koran and other texts borrowed from Shi'ite Muslims detained on the same block. He corrected the proofs of his own book, *No Trumps, No Drums*, a manifesto for a two-state Palestine written with Mark Heller, an Israeli defence expert, who was at the same moment sheltering at home with his gas mask on.

Nusseibeh is a Palestinian from an old Jerusalem family, a philosophy professor educated at Oxford and Harvard, and — these days — leading adviser to the Palestinian negotiators at the Middle East peace talks.

His arrest 12 days after the Gulf War began was due, apparently, to the interception of a phone call he received from the Iraqi ambassador in Tunis. The Israeli press (though not the detention order itself) accused him of spying.

"The first night they came and took me to a reception center," he said. "They put me in a cell with a lot of criminals, both Arabs and Jews, drug addicts and so on, who were very excited that I was there."

"Then the radio started saying I was in because I was an Iraqi spy who was directing the Scud missiles. Of course, I was afraid of them. But the fantastic thing was their reaction was totally the opposite. It was: 'Look at all this bullshit they're saying about you.' They didn't believe it. But of course other, more educated, people in Israel and elsewhere might have been ready to believe it."

It was not the first time the mild-mannered logician had been in trouble.

After undergraduate days at Christ Church, Oxford, he had given up politics to bury his nose in Frege's symbolic logic, which he studied with Quine in the US, and in the metaphysics of Ibn Sina (Avicenna), the 11th century interpreter of Aristotle, for a Harvard PhD on Islamic philosophy.

But politics was waiting for him when he came home to teach at Bir Zeit, best known of the Arab universities set up in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. (The Israelis closed the university in 1988, reopening it only last April). Meanwhile he had married Lucy Austin, daughter of the celebrated Oxford philosopher J. L. Austin.

"Having lived in a world of pure ideas, I was suddenly dropped into the middle of the real world in which, looking around me, I found the problems a total mystery. I had to go through a new process of learning," he said.

For several years he was forbidden to cross into Jordan. The English language weekly report he started on the Intifada, the Arab uprising, was banned. His East Jerusalem office was closed for three years.

"There was a lot of harassment. I was brought in for interrogation on several occasions. Then there was a lot of press talk of my having been involved with directing the Intifada."

Nusseibeh has denied being a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He is certainly an activist, though regarded as a moderate both by Western diplomats and by PLO militants (who in 1986 beat him up for it).

I met him in his mother's house in the Nabulus Road, one of the

Sari Nusseibeh

## Palestine's front-line philosopher



Sari Nusseibeh

handsome stone villas built outside the walls of Old Jerusalem, right on the former partition line. Its reception rooms resembled a Parisian salon. On the wall was a portrait of Sari's late father, Anwar, a minister in the Jordanian cabinet, ambassador to London and governor of Jerusalem.

I asked him whether his philosophical training carried weight with his comrades. Do they rely on you for a wisdom you don't possess?

"No. In real life everyone is a wise man. In order to make your advice heard you have to do more than be a wise man. It's not enough to think you know what should be done, but necessary to be involved enough to make it happen."

How much are these negotiations for you an exercise in comprehension and logic, I asked, and how much a matter of emotion? How do you regard the state of Israel?

"Well, frankly I would have preferred it if there were no Israel and no Israelis to contend with. Obviously, an all-Arab Palestinian state in all of Palestine would be for me a preferable option. On the other hand you have to contend with reality; therefore you have to learn how to make those compromises in a way that best protects your interests."

"I don't ask myself whether the Jews have the moral right to be here or not. I don't think it's a necessary question. Nor do I ask who did what to whom first."

You don't seek to apportion blame?

"I find this a total waste of time. I think one should begin from here and see what one can do."

I asked him: Do you think the Palestinian leadership played its hand badly in the past, that its response to the fact of Israel and subsequent encroachments was so hostile as to make it incapable — until now — of finding a compromise?

"I know what you mean. But I think you have to be very careful here. You could look at it mathematically or logically and say had the Palestinians or Arabs done this or that in 1947 or whenever then things might have been different; therefore they were wrong to do what they did. However this is a very cold, unsympathetic way of looking at things. In a sense it's true, but in a sense also not realistic."

"Take my parents' generation for instance, who start from the point of view that this is all theirs, that the Jews have no right here. As far as they are concerned the Jews came from outer space."

There were two kinds of equitable settlement, Nusseibeh continued. One was government of the land equally shared in a single, bi-national, state. The other was a land divided in two states.

"Both sides seem to find this option preferable, the Israelis because they want a predominantly Jewish state, the Palestinians because they want to assert their national self-determination — which you have to address if you want to be free of nationalism."

I asked him about Palestinian opposition to the talks and tensions within the PLO.

"This is a general misconception. The distinctions don't break down into inside and outside. They can be between brother and brother."

Are you just waiting for a change of government in this country on June 23?

"Well, I believe it is impossible for us to move forward until then. I do not expect Likud to change its ideology, and I do not expect the Americans to put sufficient pressure on it to make it give up. So the only alternative is a change of government."

It's now very much up to the Israeli man in the street, the voi-

er, who is being presented with two kinds of option." Nusseibeh described the choice as the chance of a peaceful life, with economic progress and integration or perpetual isolation and hardship. It was one of the more crucial decisions in Israel's history, he added.

So is it for you a matter of negotiating from Israeli weakness rather than from Arab strength?

"Yes, absolutely. I mean Shimon Peres in the Labor Party has been saying: 'We have been able to create a state, but we still have the battle for the future. And to guarantee ourselves a place in the future we have to give something back. We have to make compromises with the Palestinians.'"

"I think they have come to realise, some of them, that if they continue along this path, very soon its going to be irreversible. Very soon they will have to decide: do they want to be an undemocratic state in 'Greater Israel' or a democratic state in the Land of Israel. That's why this is a critical juncture."

Financial Times

## BERLIN

### Inch by inch we are covering the world

Berlin, the cross road of East and West Europe, Royal Jordanian invites you to the culturally rich city of Berlin. Effective from June 26, we will serve you with twice weekly non-stop flights on board our Airbus A310 as per the following schedule:

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Amman	Wed. & Fri.	11:35 a.m.	03:10 p.m.
Berlin	Thur. & Sat.	02:00 p.m.	07:30 p.m.

This is an addition to our four weekly flights to Frankfurt. For your comfort and convenience Royal Jordanian is adding yet another destination to its existing operations to Germany, providing you with greater schedule flexibility.

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## British pianist plays Beethoven alfresco!

By Mary Denis  
Special to The Star

JERASH CAME back to life last Thursday, awakened by the enchanting sound of piano music, recapturing the bygone glory and grand style of the 2000-year-old Roman city.

World famous pianist John Briggs, an artist who advocates "the cross-match" of cultures — eastern and western, modern and ancient, classical and pop — highlighted his idea of bringing two civilizations together through his piano recital at Jerash's ancient South Theater. It was a memorable musical event in a spectacular setting.

His Steinway grand piano, especially flown from England and tuned on the spot, was placed in the middle of the "orchestra" (semi-circular Roman auditorium) making the most of the acoustics and adding a visual excitement to the setting. As Briggs puts it, "The acoustics were perfect. The sound was magic. Architects in those days could create such perfect sound, yet architects today have difficulty in getting the sound from the stage to the audience."

As a performer, John Briggs is versatile. Each piece of music he plays is marked with his own "signature." His mood and style of playing changes with the vein of each particular piece. He is majestic in Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata, gentle in Rachmaninov's "Prelude," delicate in Chopin's "Nocturne," light-hearted in Strauss' "Voices of Spring" and vigorous in Grieg's "Die Fledermaus."

Briggs happily combines the



qualities of a good performer and an entertainer, which draws the audience to him. A giant of a man, his abundant energy generates enthusiasm in the people around him when he talks, laughs, gesticulates. That is perhaps why his weekly TV series "The John Briggs Music Show," which has featured famous musicians such as Nigel Kennedy, has been a hit for 5 years.

Why does Briggs choose dramatic locations for his recitals? Why Jordan? And what does he hope to achieve by performing against spectacular backgrounds?

An exotic location for a performance, says John, adds a further dimension to the event. "It is not just music that matters. It is the visual effect as well. I've played in churches, monasteries, cathedrals. In the past 20 years I've performed in almost every major concert hall from Sydney Opera House to La Scala and Carnegie Hall in New York. It's all very nice. But it's so traditional Jordan has so much to offer and one can always rely on the weather."

To get away from the "plastic world," as he describes the West,

Briggs made an unforgettable tour in a 4-wheel-drive through Wadi Mujib in 1986. That beautiful experience inspired him to do a recital in Petra. An invitation came from the Ministry of Tourism, and in 1989 John gave the first concert for 2000 years in the ancient theater at Petra. "Petra was an absolutely amazing experience," he recalls. "There is nothing in the world like Petra. The acoustics were superb!"

A film recording of this unique performance was captured in "Desert Virtuoso," which became the first in a series entitled "History in the Making" — featuring performances given in some of the world's most exotic locations. The film has been shown twice in England and is heading for the US to be shown on an entertainment channel.

Briggs is fascinated by the beauty of Jordan. "I like Jordanian faces — people smile with their eyes, not just their faces. Palestinians have got an amazing depth of civilized culture. They have a built-in sense of color, harmony, shade, light, which only Italians and the Moors of Spain and North Africa have in them. Others just do not possess it. Europe has a lot to learn from this part of the world."

John says he loves Jordan, and he genuinely wants to promote tourism in this country, but not an "en masse" type of tourism. He wants to promote a different "breed" of tourists, those with specific interests in a cultural heritage and those who will not "destroy" the precious ancient sites.

After his first visit to Jordan, Briggs wanted to encourage others to visit, and he managed to organize a group of 89 who attended his performance in Petra. This time, six out of the original group repeated their trip.

John's business and financial affairs do not interest him in the least. "My wife takes care of everything," he says. "All I want to do is to play piano." But he does take an interest in young talented students and he is always willing to assist as much as he can. For example, John donated all of the proceeds from the Jerash performance to the talented music students fund at the National Music Conservatory.

John insists that it is a merit giving people music they enjoy. "One part is educational — to introduce and explain various types and trends in music. I am not in the educational field. I like to give people music for their enjoyment, not for studying."

Is there going to be another breathtaking location? "I am thinking of something very different next year. But it is a secret!"

## Holy Land Institute for the Deaf: Where a smile can speak a thousand words

By Kate Daniels  
Star Staff Writer

UP AMONG the hills encompassing the ancient town of Salt lies one of Jordan's best kept secrets — a school and vocational training center providing a special education for Jordan's deaf and hard of hearing.

A daughter concern of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf has been teaching, training and caring for deaf children for the last 28 years and remains a forerunner in its field.

According to its Director, Brother Andrew de Carpentier, the school aims to assist deaf children "to become mature, self-reliant, well-integrated and meaningful members of society." This is achieved by both educating the deaf and by helping them develop the confidence and independence they need within a hearing world.

From the age of two up to young adulthood, around 130 deaf children from all over Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza study according to an exclusive curriculum — they follow a specially adapted syllabus, they learn sign language and finger-spelling and explore a wide range of social and vocational training skills.

Perhaps the jewel in the Institute's crown is its car repair workshop, which offers the male students professional training in auto-mechanics, carburetor repair and painting — as well as affording them with a model of a normal working environment.

"Most of the boys in the garage are apprentices," said Brother Andrew. "It tends to attract the slow learners and the students than don't fit into the regular school system."

The boys are first acquainted with the workshop from around the age of 12 with the purpose of developing basic skills. Many come to love the workshop and look on their learning as a hobby. The garage itself has a distinguished and cosmopolitan clientele, who are all guaranteed a first-rate, personal service.

"Besides our local market which is well established, we're also very popular with the expatriate community in Amman," said Brother Andrew. The garage yard is testimony to that fact — British Embassy jeeps line up with French and Italian diplomatic vehicles, while Joshua, the workshop supervisor, addresses his clients in a total of five languages.

The workshop itself is immaculately maintained by a busy troupe of the junior mechanics, who, kitted out in boiler suits, sweep and scrub diligently under the observance of the older boys. A curious calm prevails — despite the grind of glass paper and the spark of welding metal, all communication is in sign language.

Girls also participate in a number of vocational training programs which offer instruction in sewing and domestic sciences, typing, computer operating, business skills and carmould technician training. Professional skills developed by students can



Young mechanic at work

be used within the school's Production Unit, which provides them with employment opportunities and also generates the income required to support the vocational training programs themselves.

The products manufactured by the students primarily serve schools, handicapped children and small farmers, and include playground equipment, school furniture and agricultural appliances. Brother Andrew estimates that the Production Unit generates around 20-25 per cent of the funds that are needed to run the school.

Very few of the students, many of whom are boarders, pay school fees. Expenses at the Institute are high because of the need for specialized technical aids and qualified staff with a background in special education. 20 per cent of the staff are deaf, and almost all of them board with the children.

While aiming to live within the means of the funds provided by UNRWA and non-governmental organizations in Germany and the UK, the school strives constantly to develop its services further — for both its pupils and the whole of the deaf community in Jordan.

"In principle, Jordan can fulfill the demands of its deaf children," said Brother Andrew, "but more time and effort should be given to ensure that all school-age deaf children are educated."

Another focus for deaf students is further education, particularly at the tertiary and university level.

"Hopefully scholarship funds will be set up so that deaf students will be able to receive such an education," said Brother Andrew. "With support from the Ministries of Education and Higher Education or through private funds, these students can go on to be teachers of the deaf. The potential is there in terms of students but is quite the opposite in terms of funding," he added.

The potential of Jordan's deaf children is flourishing under the care and guidance of the Holy Land Institute. In the words of the booklet printed to celebrate the Institute's 25th anniversary, "deaf people do not need to be a burden, but, provided they are given the opportunity, can be valuable assets to society at large. It is part of the Institute's mandate to provide such opportunities."

## Closing the health gap for 'minorities'

By Dr Hatim Kanaaneh

BAREFOOT CHILDREN play on a rocky, unpaved road until their mother calls them into their tin shack. A public health nurse has arrived for her weekly visit to the village, which lacks medical facilities.

This is a common enough scene in the developing world; it is also a typical sight in many industrialized countries with disadvantaged ethnic minorities.

In Israel, for example, children in the Arab village of Husseinyeh live in Third World conditions, while down the road, children in the Jewish city of Karmiel have solid houses, good paved roads and all the medical services they need for a healthy life.

The Galilee Society for Health Research and Services, a non-government organization formed in 1981 by Arab medical professionals, is dedicated to closing the health gap between the Arab and Jewish citizens of Israel.

The Society, based in the Arab village of Rama in northern Israel, runs the mobile clinic that takes Siham, a public health nurse, to villages such as Husseinyeh.

The group has been an effective health-care advocate at the local and national levels. Recently it set its sights higher and initiated a global effort to address the common health concerns of minorities in industrialized countries.

It hopes to establish a permanent base in Geneva, from which to liaise with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant United Nations bodies,

to influence the international health agenda and priorities.

Palestinian Arabs comprise 18 per cent of the Israeli population. They are citizens of Israel proper and have been since its establishment in 1948, which distinguishes them from Palestinian residents of the occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank.

The infant mortality rate among the Israeli Arab community is almost twice that of the Jewish population. In some Arab villages, only one-third of the children have been fully immunized.

Defining the Arab community's situation as that of an ethnic minority in an industrialized country, the Galilee Society found common ground with other groups around the world.

It realized that many others fall into the same category: Aborigines in Australia, Maoris in New Zealand, native communities in Canada and the United States, Latino and African Americans and immigrant populations in Europe. Blacks in South Africa, a disadvantaged majority, also belong in this group.

All live in countries that have the means and the ability to meet their medical needs, and yet the health of their communities more often resembles that found in less developed nations.

Like Arabs in Israel, these groups also have difficulty making their voices heard, both nationally and internationally.

A critical stepping stone for the Galilee Society's global initiative on this theme: "Health for Minorities by the Year 2000: Closing the Gap."

### Inside Israel

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births

US

Whites

Source: US Department of Health, 1987

ISRAEL

Jews

Source: Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, 1990

Blacks

Arabs

The Gulf War forced cancellation of the conference as originally scheduled. But last August, 35 representatives of minority groups in 15 industrialized coun-

tries gathered in Nazareth to discuss issues of common concern. Participants focussed particular attention on the question of justice, noting that health is a human right, albeit one that is relatively neglected.

"Health should be as indivisible as wealth is divisible," said Gwyn Morgan, the European Community's ambassador to Israel, in an address to the conference.

Other topics discussed at the conference included the minimal involvement of minorities in national and international health planning, the low social and economic status of minorities and adhering to rigid medical models of health systems.

An international follow-up committee was established to draw up a charter and build on the momentum created by the conference. The Galilee Society have been asked to act as interim secretariat until a permanent structure — and the Geneva desk — is set up.

Since the conference, other minority groups have learned of the initiative and signed on to take part in the international effort to get governments to provide adequate health care for all their citizens.

Now the group is looking forward to 1993, when the UN Year of Indigenous Peoples will offer another platform on which to publicize their message and promote their goals.

Dr Hatim Kanaaneh is chairman of the Galilee Society for Health Research and Services.

### Book reviews

## The Intifada in English

who have been so fortunate...."

Despite the apparent euphoria, however, Hiltermann has some sobering things to say by way of conclusion. To be sure, he believes the Palestinians have already scored an important psychological point: They have demonstrated "that a Green Line does exist between the State of Israel and the Occupied Territories, and that a vibrant Palestinian nation exists and strives to set the course of its own history."

He cautions, however, that the uprising "cannot aim in the first instance at establishing a Palestinian state, but only at raising the cost of the military occupation to Israel by reducing Palestinians' dependence on the Israeli infrastructure and replacing it with one of their own."

Such a development, he asserts, will bring the Palestinians as close as possible to self-rule for now, and will ensure that a Palestinian state, if and when created, will have a solid base on which to grow.

Described as an examination of the Intifada "as a day-to-day experience, investigating how Palestinian life has been changed by the uprising," *Living the Intifada* actually belongs in the same category of socio-economic and political enquiry as Hiltermann's. Like the author of *Behind the Intifada*, Andrew Rigby too has conducted research on the educational and



The Intifada: The Green Line exists

economic aspects of the uprising, and on the ways in which it has affected the daily life of Palestinian men, women and children.

Rigby deals also with such tools of "mass mobilization" as education, health services, economics and the role of the media. There is a chapter on the response to the Intifada of the Israeli peace movement, and a long annex, "Palestinians in Israel," which is how Rigby describes the Arab citizens of Israel. He provides a concise background, in which he shows how Israel's Arab citizens have become "a po-

litical power both within Israel and within the Palestinian national movement," dwells at "some length on the solidarity they show with the Intifada and the effects it has had on them; and cites some examples of Israeli reactions to the phenomenon, always quoting copiously from Arabic, Hebrew and English sources."

While the general tenor of Rigby's opinions on this and other aspects of his subject is fairly pessimistic, he provides one small glimmer of hope when he refers to "the twin dimensions of the identity of Arabs in Israel," and

adds, somewhat ironically perhaps, "this position of being on a 'double periphery,' with a foot in both camps" — so to speak — could enable the Palestinian citizens of Israel to play a crucial role in the future as a bridge between the PLO and Israel.

For those who prefer impressionistic reporting and human-interest stories to dry analysis, Helen Wintemitz's *A Season of Stones* is the book to read on the Intifada. Living in a Palestinian village for over a year under the shadow of the uprising, and with a flair for narrative and the apt phrase, she has managed to present a graphic and realistic depiction of Palestinian life as it is lived on a day-to-day basis by the inhabitants of Nahalin, a village situated not far from Bethlehem, and for centuries untouched by the grand events of history.

Tucked away in the mountains, its inhabitants "could almost pretend to live as their ancestors had, long before the modern-day crisis between Arab and Israeli." They were "ordinary Palestinians — not those who were exiled or who were notorious for hijacking airplanes or who were reduced to the status of refugees... (but) Palestinians who had stayed home and avoided much of the endlessly intricate turmoil of the Middle East."

It is on these peaceful villagers that near-calamity descended with the outbreak of the Intifada. In Wintemitz's words, "life was not destined to get easier for the Nahalins."

The Jerusalem Post



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## Our Say...

### Good intentions are not enough

THE STATEMENTS given by Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs Edward Djerejian on the factors that underscore America's relations with the Middle East in the post-Cold War era, deserve careful examination and a proper response from Arab thinkers and Muslim intellectuals alike. Although one may differ with Mr Djerejian on many of the points that he raised in his extremely important speech before diplomats and academicians in Washington on Tuesday, one also has to admit that many of his statements reflect sober and realistic thinking in a wilderness of narrow-mindedness and fanaticism, whether in this region or in the West.

What makes Mr Djerejian's statements even more important is the fact that they were made by a senior US official who reflects the line of thinking inside the Bush administration.

One could focus on a number of points raised by Mr Djerejian, but his statements regarding Islam and the position of the United States from Islamic resurgence in an area extending from Morocco to Central Asia, are both astonishing and welcomed.

In one way, Mr Djerejian seeks to vindicate Islam from many of the injustices that had tarnished it as a great monotheistic faith whose dynamism had contributed immensely to world civilization. His point that the US administration's policy seeks to avoid falling "victim to misplaced fears of faulty perceptions" has pin-pointed the problem, but not its cause.

By reiterating that the United States does not view Islam as the next "ism" confronting the West, Mr Djerejian may be taking the first step towards a new era of "co-existence" between the West and the Muslim world. It is not enough, though, to declare your good intentions. You must follow them with actions.

It is ironic that fundamentalism and fanaticism, on both sides of the fence, have actually helped each other thrive by feeding the populace with "misplaced fears and faulty perceptions" about one another. But the picture is not as simple as this. Mr Djerejian's outline of US achievements with regards to the Middle East peace process, the rights of Palestinians, checking the aggression of Saddam Hussein's Iraq against its neighbors and safeguarding the flow of oil to the industrialized world, fall short of calming people's fears or correcting faulty perceptions.

The United States today is in a position to take the first step towards shaking the very fertile ground which breeds fanaticism and extremism. It is in a position to rectify the way people of this region have been treated by successive US administrations, where US interests have overshadowed those of the region and its people. To change popular perceptions of the United States as the enemy, there will have to be an original reform of US policies towards this part of the world.

So long as the West continues to ignore the fundamental imbalances that it created in our part of the world, Mr Djerejian's hope for a relationship governed by diversity, interaction and common aspirations will be dashed.

We share Mr Djerejian's view that the Crusades have been over for a very long time, but they continue to thrive in the minds of those who only see the other party through a prism of historic, economic and political grievances. We need to remedy that and we can do it if we deal with the roots of the problems that keep us apart today.

## 'Earth Summit' Action is in the foothills

By Daniel Nelson

NEW YORK — The "Earth Summit" which started in Rio de Janeiro this week will be a flop — but it will have far-reaching effects.

After two years of research and negotiations, the high hopes raised at the outset of the process by conference Secretary-General Maurice Strong are now little more than a wistful memory. Documents will be signed by assembled heads of government, but they will be too weak to change the world, which was what Strong set out to do.

Negotiations for conventions on climate change and biodiversity, for example, were all completed in time for the Rio meeting, but are long on generalities and short on specifics.

A "Rio de Janeiro Declaration" will set forth a number of environment and development principles, but a declaration is all it will remain.

Agenda 21 will seek to provide a program of action into the next century, but most of the wording is anodyne. Even the ever-optimistic Strong has warned that "weasel words" have crept in, as governments water down an already diluted text, substituting, for example, a non-committal promise to "consider" action in place of a previously agreed pledge to "take steps."

Africa may finally secure an agreement for a program to combat desertification, but given the way the existing UN-backed Plan of Action has fallen off the international agenda and failed to generate adequate funding, even an international agreement is no guarantee of effective support.

There is money on the table, perhaps it will amount to around \$5-10 billion a year in extra aid — but this is not even enough to reverse the negative outflow of resources from the poor world to the rich through debt repayments, deteriorating terms of trade and other inequities in the international financial system. Some estimates put the negative outflow at \$45 billion a year.

Indeed, issues such as trade, so crucial to both environment and development, are hardly getting a look in, on the grounds that this conference "is not the appropriate forum," a phrase that has become a bitter joke among the hundreds of non-government organizations (NGOs) trying to influence the negotiations.

It does not seem to be the appropriate forum to discuss the financial or environmental impact of militarism, although references to the "peace dividend" cashable as a result of the end of the Cold War might provide some ringing declarations, and even some pledges, when the government leaders take their turn at the rostrum in the final two days of the Summit.

Even more incredibly, it is not considered to be the appropriate forum to discuss the role of transnational corporations. Their funding of the salaries of Secretariat staff and other conference activities has fuelled suspicions of a behind-the-scenes trade-off.

And there has been little consideration of wasteful, polluting Northern lifestyles. The result is a conference which seems to



be saying that the answer to the problems created by the fact that 20 per cent of the world's population consume 75 per cent of the resources is for the remaining 80 per cent to change their ways.

Perhaps the biggest disappointment of all has been the lack of real discussion about issues of environment and development: It is as though delegates, most of whom are diplomats with no experience of the issues under discussion, think that merely by inserting the word "sustainable" in front of "development" they have guided the world onto a new path.

But although the unwieldy UN Conference process, in the worlds of US delegation leader Curtis Bohlen, "doesn't inspire imaginative solutions and is almost designed to produce the lowest common denominator," the Summit will make a mark.

Not directly, because the summiters clearly have not grasped the significance of the shift away from narrowly defined economic growth to the concept of sustainability. They have even failed to agree on what constitutes "the common heritage of mankind," with developing countries fearing that the phrase is a cover for the North to gain control of their hard-won resources.

But indirectly, because so many pressure groups have used the conference process to link up with other NGOs, to focus and refine their own thinking, and to campaign.

Those campaigns are like hundreds of small fires, burning in the foothills of the Summit. They might prove difficult to put out, in which case a lot of the old destructive ways of thinking about environment and development may finally go up in flames.

Panos

Daniel Nelson is Managing News Editor of the Panos Institute.

As Israelis celebrate 'reunification'

## Jerusalem's Arab residents mark 25 years of occupation

NEARLY ONE-third of Jerusalem's population was not invited to attend last week's Jerusalem Day celebrations, marking the fall of Jerusalem in the Six Day War in June 1967. Nor would it have come if it were: The uninvited live in Wadi Joz, A-Tur, Jebel Mukabir, and other Arab neighborhoods and villages of Arab East Jerusalem, through which tens of thousands of Israelis paraded to celebrate the "reunification" of the city under Israeli rule.

"For Israelis, it may be a day for celebrating the 25th anniversary of Jerusalem being reunified, but for us it only marks 25 years of occupation," said East Jerusalem newspaper editor Hanna Siniora.

About 150,000 Arabs still live in Jerusalem, 28 per cent of the city's total population, according to Israeli figures. Ninety per cent are Muslims, the rest are Christians.

Faik Barakat, head of the East Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce, was a member of the East Jerusalem municipality under Jordanian rule. "I don't want to talk politics," he insisted, sitting behind a massive desk at his Nur Ed-Din Street office. "But," he quickly added, "for Israel to simply say that from a political point of view the city is united is not practical or fair."

East Jerusalem residents have far lower standards of living than their Jewish counterparts, but face the same high municipal rate-scales. Yet the city and state give little back to the Arab sectors of the occupied city, particularly compared to the investment made in development for the Jewish population.

"Things have improved during the past 25 years of occupation," said Barakat, "but that was only natural. Look what is happening around us, in Pisgat Ze'ev and Neveh Yacov where thousands of apartments are being built — but in Beit Hanina you can't get a permit to build a single home."

Today, one-third of Jerusalem's Jewish population lives in areas of the city beyond the Green Line, according to a report released last week by the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies.

Twenty-five years ago, just after the Israeli army broke through Jordanian lines, many Arab residents believed the Israeli presence would be short-lived. "I was naive. I thought Israel would be forced to withdraw, as they were forced to withdraw from Sinai in 1956," said Siniora, a prominent Palestinian leader.

Siniora recalls returning to his father's pharmacy just after the war and an encounter with a foreign journalist, the significance of which he would only later understand. "She asked me why I hadn't taken down the picture of King Hussein on the wall." Most shop-keepers in East Jerusalem had a picture of the King prominently displayed, Siniora said he never thought to



Moshe Dayan (center) entering Old Jerusalem on 7 June 1967

take it down, that Israeli rule would be short-lived.

Even that autumn, when he left for university in Amman, he believed that, when he returned to Jerusalem in the summer, the Israelis would be gone.

"Now I understand that Jerusalem is a different case," unlike Sinai in 1956, Siniora said, sitting in his office at the Al-Fajr newspaper, just meters from the former No Man's Land that divided the city.

Today, traffic flows freely there, and it is honking horns from impatient drivers that are heard, not gunfire between Jordanians and Israelis. The cement walls and barbed-wire fences should never be returned, said Siniora. But the present political situation under which Palestinians are denied their basic rights, must also not be allowed to continue.

"Two peoples live in this city. The only way to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is to make Jerusalem the capital of both states. Only this way will there be real peace and coexistence."



A Muslim woman begging for money in Sarajevo, Bosnia, two days after the UN imposed sanctions against Serbia, whose forces still besiege the city

## Regional ROUND-UP

AMMAN — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat was admitted to Al-Hussein Medical Centre on Monday where he underwent minor brain surgery to remove a blood clot. His Majesty King Hussein was at the hospital for the duration of the operation and was the first to congratulate Mr Arafat on its success. Mr Arafat's condition was described as stable and not critical. The blood clot was caused by injuries to the head which Mr Arafat had received when his plane crashed in the Libyan desert last April. Mr Arafat will leave hospital on Friday.

The PLO leader arrived in Amman earlier in the week from Syria where he had talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. Before he had stopped in Egypt, Arafat reportedly discussed with Assad Israeli repression in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's attacks on South Lebanon. The PLO earlier released a statement in which it said Arab leaders needed a joint evaluation of their performance at the peace negotiations. Mr Arafat's discussions with King Hussein centered on the Middle East process, Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the restoration of Muslim holy place in Jerusalem. Sources close to The Star said Jordan was happy with the PLO's position on Jordan's role in the restoration of Dome of the Rock mosque in occupied Jerusalem.

EILAT — Jordan dismissed Israeli charges that Palestinian infiltrators crossed into Eilat from Aqaba last Saturday. A Jordanian official source said Jordan had no evidence that guerrillas had crossed from Jordan. Israel reported that two armed Palestinians landed on a beach in Eilat and killed a security guard before they were attacked by Israeli soldiers. One of the Palestinians was killed and the other wounded and captured. Israel alleged that the captured fighter confessed to have swam with another three men from Aqaba to Eilat. The other two did not make and were believed to have drowned. Israeli sources reported, Jordanian sources said the infiltrators could have come from a number of areas since the borders of more than one country meet near Eilat.

BEIRUT — Israeli fighter planes attacked villages in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley Sunday, few kilometers from the Syrian border. The air raid was a continuation of Israeli air and ground attacks on Hizbollah bases in Lebanon. Earlier Saturday, Israel kept up pressure on Lebanese fighters in South Lebanon, sending helicopters to monitor movement and attacking villages with artillery shells.

ABUJA, Nigeria — Sudan's government and Southern separatists rebels have put aside their main point of disagreement in a bid to keep their peace talks alive. Conference sources said government negotiators managed to overcome a rebel demand for a secular state and were discussing interim arrangements for the south to end a decade-old civil war. Saudi Arabia denied Khartoum charges that it was backing the rebels.

KABUL — Renegade rebels and a militia loyal to the caretaker Islamic government battled with rockets and artillery following an attempt on President Shihataullah Mejaoudi's life. The fighting erupted between the radical Hezb-e-Islami faction led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and a militia headed by Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum.

SANNA — Yemen welcomed Saudi Arabia's readiness to negotiate a dispute over an oil-rich border region which has further soured relations between the two countries. The Saudi statement urged Yemen to start immediate talks to solve the problem. US President George Bush sent a message to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh calling on him to solve Yemen's border disputes with Saudi Arabia through negotiations.

JP and other sources

**The Star**  
Jordan's political, economic  
and cultural weekly

An independent political, economic and cultural weekly, published every Thursday in Amman by Media Services International (Info-Media).

Editorial & Advertising: Fax & Telephone 648298, P.O. Box 9313, Amman - Jordan.

Typesetting, layout and processing done exclusively on Apple Macintosh Desk top publishing system.  
Images scanned on Hewlett Packard scanners.

Publisher  
&  
Editor-in-Chief  
Osama El-Sherif



# Ankara ponders role as pan-Turkic haven

Turkey is attracting thousands of refugees from European and Central Asian regions which are the scene currently of civil or communal strife. The influx poses a major dilemma for the country, which likes to carry the banner of all Turkic people in the region.

By Deniz Arsalan

ISTANBUL — As the "epidemic of instability" spreads across the former Soviet republics populated by Turkic peoples of different nationalities, Turkey is finding that it is becoming a haven of last resort for thousands of refugees fleeing for safety and new lives.

"Turkey is under obvious pressure, and the real influx of refugees from Central Asia is yet to begin," said one official speaking on condition of anonymity. The prospect of large scale population transfers from across its borders with Europe and Central Asia has faced Turkey with a serious dilemma, since the Turkish republic guarantees the right of abode for everyone with the remotest Turkish racial link.

Millions of people in Central Asia are Turks by origin, and hundreds of them are either displaced and homeless or facing eviction from their ancestral homes due to communal strife or war.

The risk of a flood of refugees is the most serious in recent history of the Turkish republic. In the 1980s, hundreds of thousands of Iranians fled their homeland and many of them are still in Turkey, either legally or illegally. Following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, former President Kenan Evren airlifted Afghans of Turkish origin in a highly unpopular move.

Then followed Bulgarian Turks and Turks fleeing communal tensions in Greece. The Gulf War unloaded more refugees, most of them Iraqi Kurds, into Turkey; but not being Turkish, the Kurds are unlikely to receive preferential treatment. An estimated 20,000 Iraqi Kurds are believed to have taken shelter in Turkey, compared to about 150,000 in neighboring Iran.

The crisis in Bosnia Herzegovina also has raised the possibility of large numbers of refugees from Sarajevo seeking shelter. Already, more than 2,000 Bosnian Muslims have sought shelter in Turkey and scores of refugees have been arriving from eastern Europe and seeking temporary stay with relatives or friends.

The breakup of the Soviet empire removed a major security threat from Turkey's northern border and the ensuing liberalization gladdened the hearts of not only the pan-Turkic nationalists, but also big business.

With the recession in the Middle East, Turkish construction and engineering firms specializing in turnkey projects have been looking for new markets. Central Asia offered unexpected opportunities, even though it seemed less lucrative than the Gulf contracts.

But, alongside the promise of fortunes waiting to be made has come the jolt of an "extended family" of dependent relatives wanting services and goods literally free of charge.

Prime Minister Sulayman Demirel recently promised 10,000 scholarships to students from five Central Asian republics. He also said that Turkey would accept displaced Turks from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and other Central Asian regions.

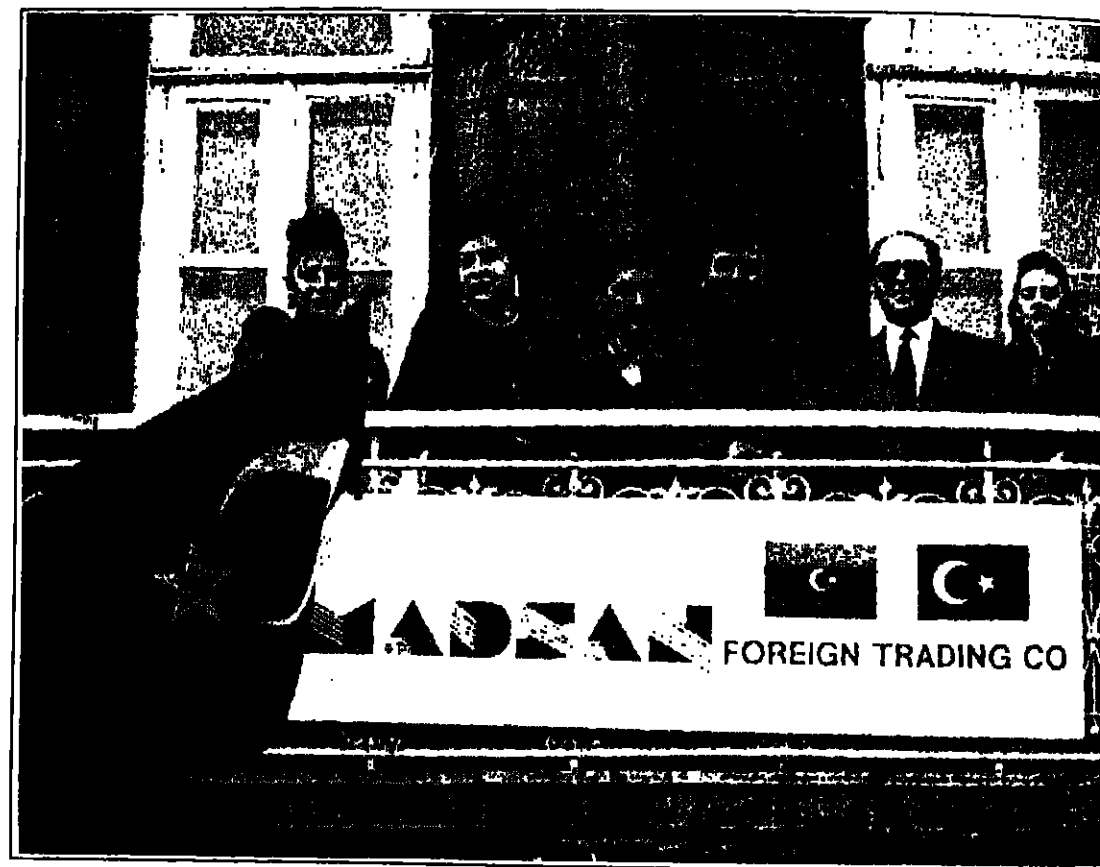
One analyst likened the Turkish generosity towards the Central Asian republics to the German bankrolling of the east, "minus the union of land or of political institutions."

Not surprisingly, Ankara's diplomatic forays into Central Asia have raised doubts within Turkey about the wisdom or economic viability of these ventures. Demirel, who recently visited Central Asia, defended his stance and stressed that Turkey was not competing for influence. But in interviews he did hint that desirable influx of Turkic union with Ankara presumably at its head.

"There is no rivalry, we're not telling the Turkic republics what to do," he said. "We will do what we can to help them and the world should be pleased rather than envious."

Demirel said the Turkish position constituted neither a pandering to pan-Turkism nor positive racial discrimination. But most Turks openly acknowledge that they are as much justified in backing their Turkic brethren as the Germans, at least officially, were right in patronizing the East Germans.

The German analogy does not stretch far and in any case it shouldn't or it will halt most Turks in their tracks. The German union is now widely believed to be behind most of the country's current economic and political woes. Turkey's support of impoverished Central Asian



Celebrating a Turkish-Azerbaijani joint venture in Baku: Doing business with the brethren

republics, coupled with the influx of refugees from those regions, likewise will build up pressures on the country's social and economic structures.

Turkey has not fully recovered from the distortions caused by the virtual civil war in the 1970s which brought the military into power in 1980. The military has returned to its barracks but the democratization process still is under frequent threat from endemic street terrorism, from a fragile economic situation and from the politicians themselves,

who invariably preached but do not practice politics of consensus.

Analysts feel that incumbent politicians, in their anxiety to play up to the popular notions of pan-Turkism, may lead the country and specially its economy astray at a time generally acknowledged to be a "healing period."

As one diplomat put it, "The only difference between now and a decade ago, when the military was in charge, is that Turkey has recouped most of its strength. But it is neither in full health nor grie-

vously ill, and a relapse may come swiftly and easily."

Most experienced pundits agree that Turkey, currently towering over its Middle East, Asian and European neighbors as a beacon of stability will easily be dwarfed, with unforeseeable consequences, if it fails to cope rationally with the upheavals around it. ■

Academic File

Deniz Arsalan is a writer and researcher based in Istanbul.

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# Le Jourdain

Section française du Star

Coopération

## Jacques Milliez, docteur engagé

De l'Algérie à la Jordanie, le célèbre docteur français a toujours été un militant de la médecine. Son dernier combat: la coopération entre la France et la Jordanie à la tête d'une association commune

"JE ME définis comme un médecin catholique" affirme le Professeur Milliez. Une phrase bien réductrice. Ce grand spécialiste français de gynécologie et d'obstétrique, chef de service à l'hôpital de Créteil n'est pas une blouse blanche comme les autres. Milliez est un militant de la médecine. Très tôt, il se découvre des affinités avec le monde arabe. En 78-79, déjà, il enseigne en Tunisie. De 1982 à 1986, il est professeur d'obstétrique et de gynécologie en Algérie. Un pays où il fondera par la suite une "Association médicale Euro-Arabe".

Son premier contact avec le Moyen-Orient se fera quelques années plus tard: en 1990, il participe à une mission d'évaluation médicale dans les Territoires-occupés, en Cisjordanie et à Gaza. Les résultats vont à jamais rester gravés dans la mémoire du Professeur Milliez: "Nous avons constaté que les soldats israéliens traînaient avec des billes d'acier à haute vitesse, et provoquaient des dégâts épouvantables. Notre but était de dénoncer les conséquences médicales des sévices et brutalités commis par les Israéliens sur des enfants".

Retour à Paris. La télévision abonde les foyers d'images de l'intifada. Pourtant, les rapports de l'équipe semblent excessifs. "Beaucoup de gens ont refusé de nous croire, s'exclame le Professeur Milliez, cela a été très difficile. Beaucoup de nos interviews n'ont pas été publiées..."

L'après-guerre du Golfe

A ce moment là, l'association Euro-Arabe du docteur français commence de lier des liens solides avec certains pays arabes. Puis tout semble se briser avec l'arrivée de la guerre du Golfe. "Les actions humanitaires ont laissé la place à des actions de guerre" regrette le Professeur. "Four ma part, j'ai pris parti contre cette guerre inutile pour la France" ajoute-t-il.

Ajouté que les combats entre la coalition et les forces de Saddam Hussein redoublent d'intensité, un docteur francophone de Jordanie débarque à Paris. Il s'agit de Pashigh Saudi. Le Professeur Milliez jubile. "Elle m'a proposé de créer une association médicale entre nos deux pays, pour ne pas interrompre toute relation..." Par le biais de la coopération médicale, le but non affiché est de maintenir des liens politiques plus que jamais menacés. L'idée est retenue par le cabinet de Roland Dumas, au ministère des Affaires Étrangères français. Elle sera bientôt lancée.

Entre-temps, le Professeur Milliez erre de conférence en conférence. Sans oublier pour autant le projet franco-jordanien. Puis arrive la date tant attendue. Le 15 juillet 1991, l'Association médicale franco-jordanienne entame sa première mission d'exploration en Jordanie. Au programme, des rencontres avec la Reine Noor, des ministres, des parlementaires et avec le grand chambellan du Roi, le Prince Raad. Ce dernier deviendra le parrain et président d'honneur de l'association. Un atout de marque pour les amis de Milliez.

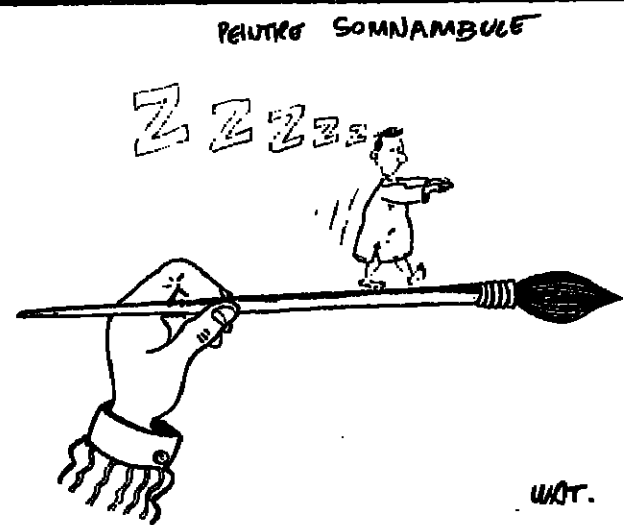


Professeur Milliez, militant de la médecine

Le Quai d'Orsay décide d'accorder cinq missions prioritaires à l'association qui choisit aussitôt le thème de son premier Congrès: la pédiatrie. "A ce moment là, c'est la fin de la guerre du Golfe, nous entreprenons de renouer le dialogue avec les Jordaniens et les Palestiniens, meurtris par la position de la France pendant la guerre". En juillet 1991, le Professeur Milliez, tient une conférence à l'hôpital King Hussein. Novembre arrive: le premier grand congrès de l'association est un succès. L'idée de la coopération médicale entre la France et la Jordanie est maintenant lancée.

Dès juillet '91, le thème du deuxième congrès était déjà dans l'air: Aspects Économiques et Organisationnels de la Santé. Mais il prendra du temps à se mettre sur les rails. Ce congrès d'experts vient de fermer ses portes. Il a eu le mérite d'aborder un sujet quasi tabou en Jordanie. Sa tenue est le signe de l'influence croissante des amis du Professeur Milliez dans le Royaume. ■

Francis Mazoyer



## Télex... Jordanie

**ARAFAT** - L'opération chirurgicale subie à Amman par le chef de l'OLP, Yasser Arafat, "a réussi" a affirmé lundi le porte-parole de la centrale. Yasser Arafat "se porte bien" a ajouté M. Ahmed Abdelrahmane. Il a précisé que l'opération visait à éliminer un caillot de sang qui s'était formé sous sa membrane cervicale. Le leader de l'OLP devrait sortir de la Cité médicale Al-Husseini dans les jours qui viennent.

**ARAFAT BIS** - le leader de l'OLP a appelé dimanche à Amman les co-parrains sur la Conférence de paix à appliquer des sanctions contre l'Etat hébreu. A son arrivée de Damas dans la capitale jordanienne, Yasser Arafat a condamné "Israël pour ses crimes dans les Territoires-occupés et au sud du Liban".

**COMANDO** - La Jordanie a affirmé dimanche que le commando qui s'est infiltré samedi dans le sud d'Israël à Eilat a pu venir d'un des autres pays riverains du Golfe d'Aqaba. Dans des déclarations rapportées par l'Agence Péra, un porte-parole officiel jordanien a souligné que "les autorités concernées ne détiennent aucune preuve qu'un groupe de personnes a traversé de la rive jordanienne vers l'autre rive".

**MEETING** - La rencontre entre les ministres des Affaires étrangères jordanien, syrien, libanais et palestinien, prévue mercredi et jeudi à Amman a été reportée aux 6 et 7 juin. Ce délai serait dû à des questions de planning pour les participants. Cette réunion doit se focaliser sur la questions des pourparlers de paix.

**DON** - Le gouvernement italien vient de décider un don de 2 millions de dollars au "Vocational Training Centre", une institution des Territoires-occupés. Le Centre, qui dépend de l'UNWRA offre des stages à environ 500 personnes.

## A VOIR...

**EXPO** - Peintures de Patrice Pain, Jusqu'au mardi 22 juin au Centre culturel français.

**EXPO II** - Affiches d'Alr France, du jeudi 25 juin au jeudi 16 juillet. Celles-ci nous rappellent que la célèbre compagnie aérienne créée en 1933 fut la première à avoir un réseau couvrant cinq continents.

**MUSIQUE** - Dans le cadre de la fête de la musique, dimanche 21/06 à 17h00, Les Misérables, dessin animé musical d'après l'œuvre de Victor Hugo, sur une musique de Jean-Jacques Debout. Le même jour à 20h00, Souvenirs Souvenirs, un film musical sur les années 60 d'Ariel Zeitoun.

**CINEMA** - La Nuit du Cinéma, au CCF, jeudi 25 juin. A 20h00, La Femme Secrète, de Sébastien Grail, avec Philippe Noiret, Jacques Bonnaffé, Clémentine Célaré. A 22h30, Poussière d'Ange de Edouard Niermans, avec Bernard Giraudeau et Fanny Cottençon.



Point de vue

# Le défi de la croissance

La Jordanie, entravée par le poids de sa dette extérieure, aperçoit une porte de sortie: la croissance

LE FONDS Monétaire International (FMI) ne souffre pas d'un excès d'imagination. Dans chaque pays où le conduisent ses bons offices, il dévoile le même cortège de remèdes, dictés par l'orthodoxie financière.

En Jordanie, l'encadrement du crédit qu'il a préconisé, excite les passions et s'avère pour le moins inopérant. Bien que très peu libérale, cette mesure a les faveurs du FMI, de par ses traditionnelles vertus anti-inflationnistes. En effet, conformément à la maxime, "les crédits font les dépôts", en bornant la progression des crédits, l'on contrôle la croissance de la masse monétaire, dont toute expansion injustifiée renforcerait les pressions inflationnistes.

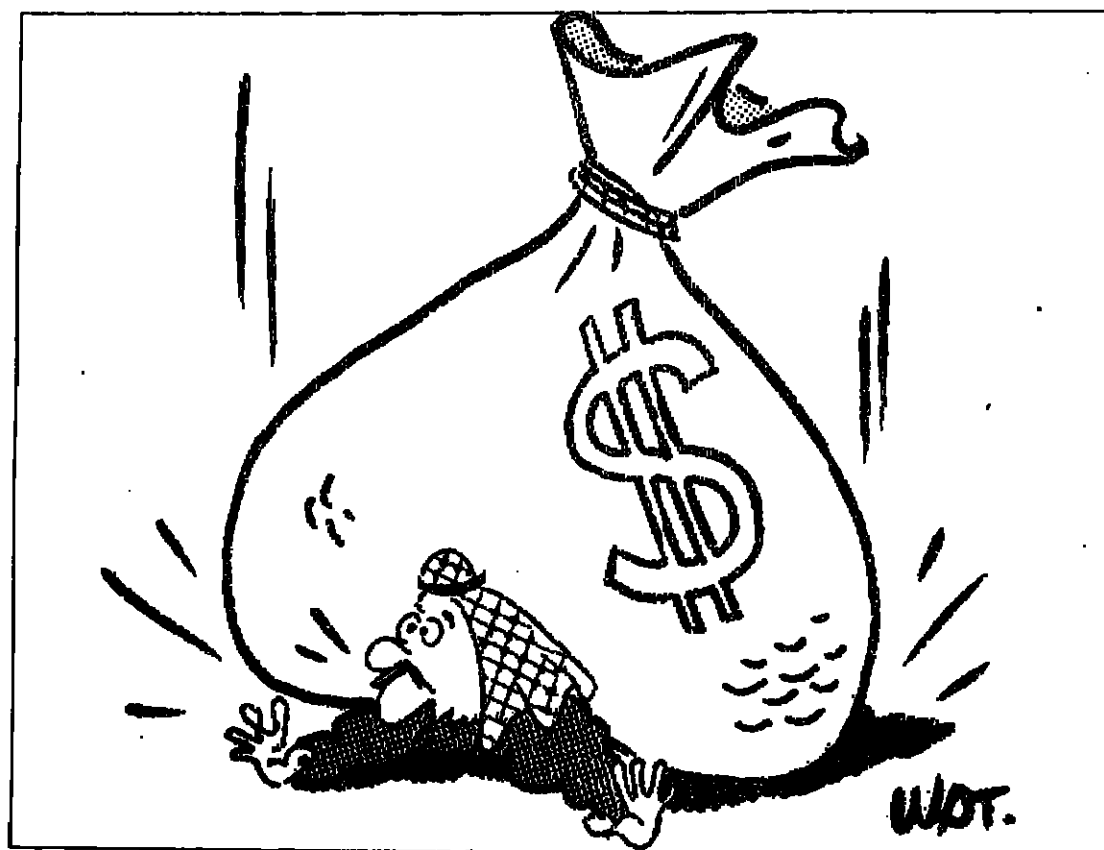
Or, conséquence du retour des réfugiés en provenance du Golfe, les dépôts auprès des banques jordanaises ont très fortement crû, entraînant un gonflement irrésistible de cette même masse monétaire. Ayant progressé de plus de 35% en un an, celle-ci atteint désormais près de 7 milliards de dinars, soit plus de trois fois le Produit Intérieur Brut (PIB).

Début mal, panique à la bourse

Non seulement incapable de maîtriser un tel débordement, l'encadrement du crédit pourrait en outre entraver le redressement de l'économie. En effet, le plafond fixé par le FMI à la progression du crédit en 1992 est de 200 millions de dinars. En quatre mois, les banques ont déjà absorbé 85%. Le respect de cette prescription menacerait alors le Royaume Hachémite d'une véritable pénurie de crédit ou "crédit-crunch". Déjà, les rumeurs d'un resserrement de la politique monétaire de la banque centrale jordanienne se font plus insistantes, nourrissant la panique qui, début mai, a saisi la Bourse d'Amman, comme partout, l'ombrière de la situation économique. De plus, les ressources pléthoriques des banques ne pouvant trouver à s'employer, ni sur un marché financier fébrile, celles-ci sont progressivement contraintes à réduire les rémunérations offertes à leurs déposants. On peut donc craindre que ceux-ci ne se détournent des banques.

Le FMI, comptable des grandes puissances

Le risque pour l'économie jordanienne est alors double: d'une part un exode des capitaux, à l'étranger qui compromettrait les réserves de change et déstabiliserait le dinar; et d'autre part un rebond de la consommation qui tirerait les importations et raviverait l'inflation. En dernier ressort, c'est l'investissement qui serait touché, alors que la Jordanie



nie en a un impérieux besoin.

Doit-on pour autant incriminer le FMI? Non. Il n'est que le comptable des deniers des puissances industrielles. L'endettement des pays en développement dépasse les 1.400 milliards de dollars. Il est chimérique de croire que ces pays sauront dégrader les excédents commerciaux nécessaires au remboursement de leur dette.

Aussi, une des missions du FMI est de prendre la mesure de ce risque et de recouvrer ce qui peut l'être. A cet égard, les pays en voie de développement remboursent d'ores et déjà plus qu'ils ne reçoivent.

En 1982, le défaut de paiement du Mexique avait fait vaciller le système financier international sur ses bases. Aujourd'hui, la bombe est désamorcée et la dette non remboursée passera par pertes et profits, marginalisée par la croissance des pays développés. Toutefois, le fossé entre pays riches et pays en développement se creuse davantage. Ce que le FMI ne peut accomplir, c'est donc aux Etats de l'entreprendre.

D'un montant total de 7,2 milliards de dollars, la dette extérieure de la Jordanie est par habitant l'une des plus élevées du monde (2.000 dollars). Chaque année, le déficit de sa balance des opérations courantes rend nécessaire le secours de près d'un milliard de dollars supplémentaires. A moins d'être entièrement constitué de dons, il vient accroître l'endettement total. De plus, les accords de rééchelonnement de la dette se traduisent par une majoration du stock existant (égale au montant des intérêts rééchelonnés).

Or, l'objectif fixé par les autorités jordanaises en accord avec

le FMI, est un retour à l'équilibre

de la balance des opérations courantes en 1998. C'est-à-dire que d'ici là, la dette extérieure du Royaume va continuer d'enfler. Par ailleurs, si le tableau de marche n'est pas respecté, une dévaluation-sanction pourrait voir le jour, ce qui alourdirait mécaniquement le fardeau de l'endettement.

Dans le même temps, et si les objectifs sont atteints, la croissance économique serait quasiment neutralisée par l'augmentation de la population (+ 3-3,5% par an), de sorte que le PIB par habitant, véritable juge de paix de l'économie, évoluerait très peu, passant de 1.235 à 1.325 dollars (à prix constants).

Seule solution: la croissance

Par conséquent, à moins d'un effacement pur et simple d'une partie de la dette, la position relative de la Jordanie au sein de l'économie mondiale deviendra plus inconfortable, son endettement augmentant plus vite que ses revenus.

Seule une très forte croissance lui permettrait d'inverser la tendance et de se libérer de l'ascendant de ses créanciers. Des taux de croissance annuels de 10 à 15% sont tout à fait possibles (certaines économies asiatiques en ont apporté la preuve), mais ils ne se décrètent pas. Ils résultent de l'interaction de nombreux composants.

Or, pour ce qui est de deux facteurs de production traditionnels: le travail et le capital, la Jordanie dispose d'une réserve de productivité considérable. D'une part, la population active affiche un degré élevé de qualification et est sous-employée (le

taux de chômage est d'environ 30%). D'autre part, sous l'effet du retour des réfugiés du Golfe, les capitaux privés ont atteint des niveaux records, avec notamment plus de 3 milliards de dinars déposés auprès des banques.

Bien qu'ils soient en progression par rapport à l'an passé, les investissements enregistrés au cours des quatre premiers mois de l'année 1992 (72,6 millions de dinars), sont encore bien insuffisants pour tirer la croissance. C'est pourquoi l'instauration d'un véritable climat de confiance est essentielle pour bousculer l'attentisme ambiant.

L'Émirat pourrait venir d'une réduction de la réglementation douanière et de la fiscalité. Ou, comme il en a déjà été question, de privatisations partielles (c'est-à-dire ne remettant pas en cause le contrôle de l'Etat sur les entreprises), ou de cessions d'actifs non stratégiques.

Relayée par l'investissement privé comme moteur de la croissance, la puissance publique pourrait alors se consacrer à la mise en œuvre d'un certain nombre de mesures de rationalisation de ses dépenses, comme son accord avec le FMI le précise. En particulier, une diminution des sureffectifs dans l'administration et une réduction des subventions des produits et services de base. Ceci étant rendu possible par la vigueur de l'activité qui en tempérerait le coût social.

Au déficit budgétaire, substituer l'investissement privé, tel est le défi à relever. Encore faut-il que les conditions de son financement soient réunies. C'est-à-dire que le marché des capitaux soit opérant aussi bien dans sa composante bancaire que boursière. ■

Henri Vaudoyer

## L'EDITO

Pour que la terre tourne!

LES QUELQUES 178 Etats-membres des Nations Unies se réunissent aujourd'hui à Rio de Janeiro, Brésil. Ils sont représentés par leurs Présidents, leurs Rois. Le sommet, le premier du genre, vise à sauver notre planète des méfaits polluants de ses habitants.

La Charte de la terre, projet de code de conduite qui sera adopté par les chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement est l'aboutissement de pas moins de deux années de négociations acharnées, menées par les Nations Unies, à New York, à Genève et ailleurs. Ce code régira le comportement des individus, des sociétés, des entités, et des communautés à l'égard de notre environnement.

L'agenda 21, projet pas moins ambitieux pour le siècle que nous entamons, prévoit une série de mesures visant à réparer les dégâts énormes déjà enregistrés et à prévenir de telles entraves à l'existence des générations futures.

La volonté politique est plus que jamais requise par les hôtes de Rio. Viendra par la suite, la mise en œuvre des divers appels que l'on espère unanimes, lors de ce Sommet de la terre.

Chaque individu, en effet, devrait être sensibilisé, mobilisé et responsabilisé, non seulement par la dégradation de la couche d'ozone et le réchauffement de l'atmosphère. Mais aussi par tout élément écologique immédiat qui le touche directement.

Préserver la moindre plantation, sauvegarder tout paysage, entretenir une relation humaine avec son environnement. Ce sommet, qui réunit à nouveau les Nations Unies, après leur première conférence sur ce thème vingt ans auparavant à Stockholm, pourrait être baptisé "Sommet de la promotion de la terre". Car il s'agit de sauver cette planète des méfaits de certains humains.

Les pays riches, tenus responsables des diverses atteintes écologiques, se réunissent avec les pays pauvres, autoproclamés victimes des pollueurs. Toute polémique mise à part, les participants de Rio ayant lié le développement à l'environnement, ont donné davantage de chances de succès à cette manifestation unique.

Sauver les forêts, les réserves naturelles, garder les cours d'eau propres... Pour parvenir à ces objectifs, il faut d'abord éradiquer les obstacles. A savoir la misère qui frappe des centaines de millions d'habitants de cette même planète.

Une coopération internationale devrait mener à la prévention des dangers qui menacent toutes les Nations. Seule la solidarité fera tourner la terre. Proprement. ■

## Télex... France

**COLONISATION** - Des parlementaires européens demandent le gel de la colonisation des Territoires-occupés. Le Comité Exécutif de l'Association Parlementaire pour la Coopération Euro-Arabe (APCEA), qui comprend de nombreux parlementaires européens, a lancé samedi à Paris un appel en ce sens. Cette colonisation "ne peut que rendre plus difficile toute solution de paix".

**PLAN** - Le président français François Mitterrand a préconisé un plan mondial pour aider l'Afrique, dans une interview diffusée dimanche par la télévision sénégalaise. "J'ai préconisé toute une série de procédures financières qui permettraient de disposer d'un plan mondial pour qu'enfin l'Afrique se sente entourée. Peu à peu, la conviction se fait et pour ce qui concerne la France, nous donnons l'exemple" a ajouté François Mitterrand.

**TABAC** - Le Journal Officiel a publié samedi dernier un décret d'application de la loi anti-tabac du 10 janvier 1991, interdisant de fumer dans les lieux affectés à un usage collectif. Ce décret, signé de dix-sept ministères ou secrétaires d'Etat, s'applique à "tous les lieux fermés et couverts accueillant du public ou qui constituent des lieux de travail" ainsi qu'aux moyens de transports collectifs et aux établissements d'enseignement.

**RMC** - Le syndicat général des journalistes Force Ouvrière "dénonce avec vigueur les vols-faces" du directeur de RMC Moyen Orient, dans un communiqué publié lundi. Cette protestation fait suite à une grève destinée à protester contre "les licenciements et suppressions de postes" au sein de la radio.

**KOUCHNER** - Le ministre français de la Santé et de l'Action humanitaire, se félicite de l'adoption par le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU d'un embargo total contre les activités de Belgrade. Le ministre français a, au cours d'une interview au Journal du Dimanche, plaidé pour le droit d'urgence "qui protégera les peuples avant qu'il ne soit trop tard".

**EXPLOIT** - Réaliser un tour du monde en 80 jours à bord d'une voiture à vapeur: c'est la pari d'un Français, Eric Massiot du Brest, qui partira de la maison du célèbre écrivain Jules Verne à Nantes, dans l'ouest de la France, le 27 juin. Pour ce voyage de 40.000 km, deux places ont été réservées à deux ambassadeurs de 12 et 13 ans, un jeune Portugais et un jeune Français, qui devront promouvoir "la Convention internationale du droit des enfants".

## A partir du 4 juin au CCF Expo de pAinture

Noël Favrelière, directeur du Centre culturel français livre ses impressions au "Jourdain", sur Patrice Pain, "peintre somnambule".

Le Jourdain: Pouvez-vous, d'un coup de pinceau, dresser le portrait de la pAinture? Noël Favrelière: Georges Braque disait que pour bien parler d'un peintre, il faudrait parler de tous les autres, et il ajoutait modestement: "Mes oiseaux ne seraient sans doute pas ce qu'ils sont, si je n'avais jamais vu les oiseaux de la dynastie Han". Car l'histoire de la peinture n'est pas un cours d'eau unique, mais elle est faite de ruisseaux, d'affluents, de confluent, d'eaux souterraines qui remontent ou de lacs qui disparaissent... Et tout cela mène à l'incommensurable quadrillage d'un delta qui chaque jour s'agrandit.

L.J: Dans ce quadrillage, où se trouve la peinture de Patrice Pain?

Noël Favrelière: Avec Patrice Pain, on n'a pas à remonter très haut. On reste dans le vingtième siècle, car il est l'héritier tout à la fois d'un néo-cubisme qui partait des "collages" de Max Ernst et des "sablages" d'André Masson, et d'un courant "nouvelle figuration" qui ferait fi de toute narration.

L.J: Il serait donc surréaliste?

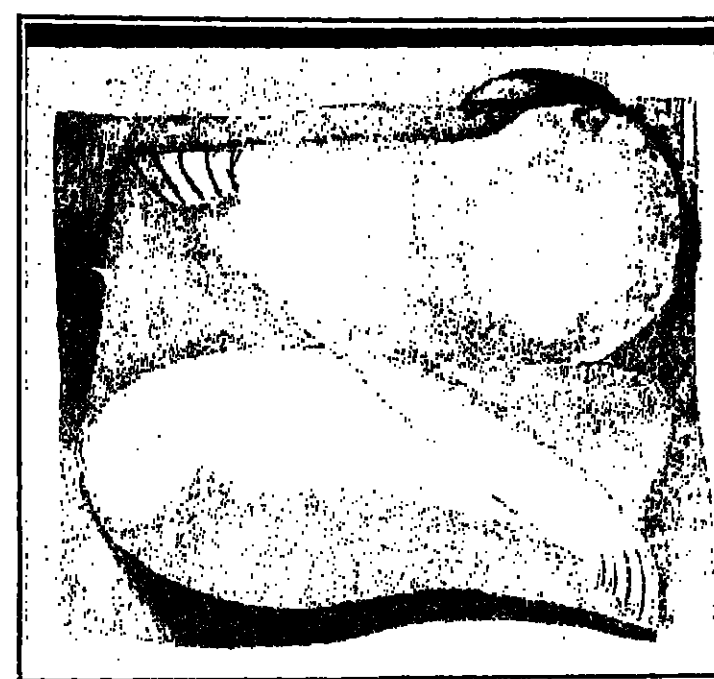
Noël Favrelière: Pas vraiment, car la démarche de Patrice Pain est contraire, entre autres, à celles de peintres comme Carra ou De Chirico. Eux arrivaient à une figure humaine métaphysique par assemblage d'objets réels: mannequins, règles ou esquisses d'architecture. Ou d'objets inventés: petites maquettes d'immeubles en forme de parallélogrammes colorés. Patrice Pain, lui, part de la figure humaine, le plus souvent photographiée, et il en pèle l'apparence réelle comme on pèle un fruit, en douceur et sans douleur, pour dévoiler des choses sans grande ressemblance avec la figure humaine originelle.

## Rio, du 3 au 14 juin L'ESCWA au Sommet de la terre

QUELQUES HEURES avant son embarquement pour Rio, via Paris, Tayseer Abdel Jabber, Secrétaire Exécutif de la Commission économique et sociale des Nations Unies pour l'Asie Occidentale, a réuni lundi matin à Amman, une pléiade de ministres, d'universitaires, d'experts et de chefs d'organisations gouvernementales et non gouvernementales.

Objectif: les informer sur le Sommet de la terre et ses perspectives, la situation économique régionale et le plan de travail de la Commission. "C'est un plan intégré contenant des programmes sectoriels de développement, écologiquement adéquats, qui sera mis en œuvre dans les 13 pays de la région, en vue de préserver les ressources naturelles" a déclaré Tayseer Abdel Jabber.

Le Secrétaire Exécutif de l'ESCWA a par ailleurs exprimé les préoccupations majeures de ses services: l'appauvrissement des ressources en eau, la désertification, la détérioration des conditions de vie et la pollution en général.



voiler des choses sans grande ressemblance avec la figure humaine originelle.

L.J: Et ça ressemble à quoi?

Noël Favrelière: Il invente un autre squelette à partir des lignes de force de la composition, et le volume est tantôt modelé par des ombres et des lumières atténuées, tantôt aplati, découpé en surface. On l'a compris: il n'a que faire de la figure, son véritable sujet, c'est l'élaboration de sa peinture dont il devient lui-même le sujet... au sens d'esclave.

L.J: Et les couleurs?

Noël Favrelière: Elles sont aussi atténuées, pour représenter, sous la réalité tendrement écorchée, des choses, des formes vides de sang et de sève comme des momifications... comme des fossiles. Et ces couleurs - des gris surtout, légers et évanescents - ne sont pas lisses, transparentes, mais triturations dans la matière.

Car il semble bien que la seule chose que Patrice Pain interroge, ce soit justement la matière.

L.J: De la grisaille sur des fossiles, ça paraît un peu triste...

Noël Favrelière: Triste non... mais il est vrai que cette peinture me fait penser à celle d'un somnambule. C'est-à-dire au coup de pinceau de quelqu'un qui est entre deux sommeils et qu'on ne doit surtout pas réveiller. Car il n'en a pas envie. C'est comme si Patrice Pain entraînait dans les choses les yeux fermés, comme on entre dans une grotte en avançant la pénombre pour ensuite mieux voir ce qui nous y attend. Mais Patrice Pain n'ouvre pas les yeux, même à l'intérieur de la grotte. Il ne veut pas voir, il préfère imaginer. Sa peinture n'est que "cosa mentale". ■

Propos recueillis par Francis Mazoyer



Tayseer Abdel Jabber

Dans un exposé rapide mais rigoureux, M. Ahmed Hamza, Conseiller régional de l'ESCWA pour les questions d'environnement, a dressé un bilan plutôt sombre de la situation écologique locale. Selon son rapport, la détérioration du niveau de vie dans la région, qui comprend les pays les plus riches, contraste avec des dépenses record en matière d'armement. Celles-ci seraient

doublées d'une négligence exemplaire dans les domaines de la Santé, de l'Education et des Services publics.

M. Hamza a ensuite proposé la création d'un réseau d'informations entre les 13 Etats de la région, "qui servira à les lier entre eux, en vue de parer à tout problème d'ordre écologique".

Pour sa part, le ministre jordanien de l'Environnement, Abdel Razzak Tubelshat, a rappelé que son pays "venait à peine d'annoncer un plan national pour l'Environnement". La Jordanie devient ainsi "le premier pays arabe à adopter une telle stratégie" a-t-il ajouté. C'est M. Tubelshat qui dirige la délégation jordanienne au Sommet de Rio.

Bref, pour clore cette rencontre, Tayseer Abdel Jabber a lancé un appel en faveur de l'engagement des responsables et des citoyens de la région, afin d'aider la Commission à mettre en œuvre ses programmes de protection de l'environnement. ■

Amine Chahoui

## Télex... Orient

**GEL** - Le parti travailliste israélien, s'est engagé, s'il remporte les élections, à ne pas créer de nouvelles implantations dans les Territoires-occupés. Il déclare aussi ne pas vouloir élargir celles qui existent, sauf dans la vallée du Jourdain, à Jérusalem-Est et sur le plateau du Golan. Cette mesure hypothétique serait appliquée "pendant un an", délai que les travaillistes estiment nécessaire pour mener à terme les négociations sur l'autonomie des Territoires-occupés.

**SHARON** - Le ministre israélien de l'Habitat, Ariel Sharon, a demandé dimanche l'accélération de la procédure d'expulsion engagée en janvier contre onze Palestiniens des Territoires-occupés. M. Sharon, qui est soutenu par le ministre des Transports, a fait ces déclarations lors du conseil des ministres, à la suite du meurtre dimanche dernier, d'une jeune israélienne tuée à coups de couteau par un Palestinien de la Bande de Gaza.

**ACCUSE** - Le seul survivant parmi les quatre auteurs de l'infiltration d'Elit samedi, au cours de laquelle un civil israélien a été tué, est un Palestinien originaire de Hébron en Cisjordanie. Il est à l'hôpital et sa garde à vue a été prolongée de quinze jours. Deux autres Palestiniens, figuraient parmi les membres du commando d'Elit. On ignore la nationalité du quatrième.

**VOL** - Neuf personnes ont été forcées vendredi soir le coffre d'une bijouterie à Koweït, emportant pour plus de 5 millions de dollars d'or et de diamants. C'est le vol le plus important qu'ait connu l'Émirat, rapporte dimanche le quotidien Al-Anbaa. Le journal précise que les voleurs se sont introduits dans l'appartement du gardien et l'ont obligé sous la menace à leur remettre les clés du coffre.

**EXPULSION** - Les autorités koweïtiennes ont expulsé dimanche une correspondante de l'agence Reuters. On lui reproche d'avoir "mêlé" le nom de l'Émir, cheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, dans un article sur l'élection de la Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie locale. Diana Abdallah, de nationalité libanaise, avait écrit que l'Émir "soutenait une liste d'hommes d'affaires". C'est la première décision de ce genre prise par les autorités koweïtiennes depuis la libération de l'Émirat en février 1991.

**PELERINS** - Un premier groupe de 4500 Irakiens s'est rendu samedi à la Mecque, en Arabie Saoudite, pour y accomplir le pèlerinage annuel de la deuxième semaine de juin. Un responsable saoudien a annoncé que quelque 9.000 Irakiens sont attendus pour cette occasion.



# AROUND TOWN



**Congratulations!!**  
Graduations, appointments, engagements, weddings, newborns, promotions, special awards, excellent achievements.....  
Drop us a line and send a photo...we will run it free of charge in The Star's People and Events page.

● John Briggs, the pianist famous for his special settings, gave a concert in Jerash 28 May. All proceeds went to the National Music Conservatory to give music students a chance to develop their skills. HM Queen Noor deputized Minister of Information Mr Mahmoud El Sherif to attend on her behalf.

● On the occasion of Italian Day on 31 May, the Ambassador of Italy and Mrs Franco de Courten held a reception at the ambassador's residence. Among the guests were Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and members of the diplomatic corps.

● As Amman sweltered last Friday, one lucky group of its residents escaped to the breezy hills of Zay. There, British Airways representative Hanna Hashweh, his wife Suzan and children Caroline, Albert and Christine were hosting a delightful lunch for departing Australian ambassadorial couple Bob and Jenny Bowker and their children Sam and Tabitha.

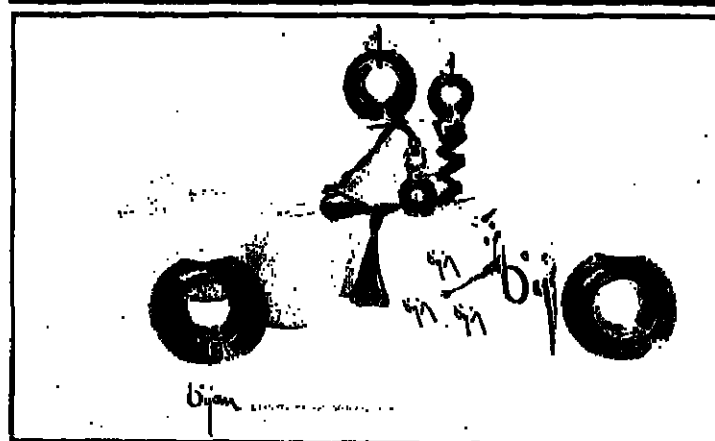
Among the throng of the Bowkers' friends and colleagues were Hashim and Ann Tarawneh, economist Fahed Faneh and his wife, Rosemary and Othman Bdeir, Michael Zabaneh of Jordan, Worsted Mills and his wife Rosette Chris and Carol Chislett of the British Council, Sami Nijem, Zaki Nabulsi and Rafiq Hariri, all of ANZ Grindlays Bank, with their wives, Jordan Intercontinental General Manager Chawel Ayoub and Mrs Ayoub and all the way from Mafrqa despite the heat, Aileen Coleman.

The pleasure of Australian Embassy staff members, Huda Abdul-Hadi, Jan Sheridan, Nahida Yasminah and Randa El Hafez was tinged only by the sad thought that they are about to lose a great boss.

The Hashwehs were delighted to receive one of Jenny Bowker's paintings as a permanent reminder of the Bowker family as they return to Canberra after four happy and productive years in Jordan.



● Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein inaugurated an exhibition at the Amman Plaza Hotel in Jordan. A total of 23 Jordanian firms jointly held a display of local handicrafts, gifts, leather products, scents, food, sweets and other items, to mark the Eid Al Adha celebration. Visitors and touristic groups staying at the Plaza as well as many Jordanians visited the five day event.



● Bijan, the selective and exclusive men's fashion designer and the man who created the first men's perfume in 1981 had his ladies' perfume launch in Jordan on 31 May. The perfume, packaged in a curious doughnut shaped bottle, encapsulates both masculinity and femininity in an organic form. Bijan perfume for women has a top note of exotic ylang-ylang, narcissus and orange flower which harmonizes with the full-bodied heart notes of Persian jasmine, muguet and composition delicately intertwined with sultry patchouli, Moroccan oakmoss and the warmth and softness of sandalwood.

On the occasion of releasing Bijan products in Jordan, the general distributors for the Jordan market The Gift Center—Abraham Trading Estb. held a press conference on Sunday 31 May at the Marriott Hotel.

A presentation was made by Miss Mary-Anne Brozier, Bijan's regional manager for the Middle East. Also attending were Ibrahim and Khaled Abu Shakra.



Mr Bijan

## Wedding Congratulations!



● Congratulations to Ali Ensour and his beautiful bride Eman Nabulsi who were married on Friday 29 May. The reception was in a reception hall in Salt where many friends and relatives attended to share in this happy occasion.

Mabruk!



● On Friday 29 May Mustafa Barahime was engaged to Alla in his home at Rusayfe. Many family members, friends and loved ones attended to wish the happy couple a fruitful life together.

## Scrapbook

### Remember the typewriter?

DURING LAST month I visited a number of computer exhibitions that were organized in Amman. As I viewed the latest in electronic wizardry, I could not help but wonder about how computers have changed our lives in the last decade or so by changing the way we work at the office, do our shopping, reserve our airline tickets, communicate with the outside world...etc.

I recalled the statements of the minister of information last week on how the machines we import, as developing countries, change our values and how the relationship between man and machine is evolving all the time, in effect creating dependent human beings on machines that were not in existence few years ago. In other words, machines create a need that we had never felt before. That need, or dependency, becomes a central theme in our lives, when a few years ago it may have been a marginal one.

I have tried to keep pace with latest technological developments, although I have given up on acquiring new machines after I became convinced that I could never win in the end. What's new today is obsolete tomorrow. Computer salespersons barge into my life brandishing new equipments which they say I could never live without. A few years ago I would have given in easily to their logic, but not any more. I refuse to become subservient to machines anymore.

I remember the recent past when the old-fashioned typewriter was my best companion and friend. Its monotonous thumping and pounding was music to my ears and I felt a rare affinity to it. Now when my computer goes on the blink I am paralyzed. I call maintenance and wait impatiently for the computer to be fixed. But as I wait I reminisce about those days when all you had to do is to change the ribbon on the typewriter, insert a fresh sheet of paper and hammer in your thoughts. Nothing to it and nothing will ever be like it. ■

Ahmad Madi

## Cool fruit drinks for summer

Smooth blends

STEAMY SUMMER days are back, you're craving for something frosty to touch, and something cold going down, and thick enough for a straw to stand in.

You are trying to be good to your figure, so a double chocolate malt is out of the question. But you definitely need something thicker than water.

Well, take out the blender and put away all thoughts of ice cream. Here are some low-calorie drinks that will cool you down and fill you up.

Some, like the Strawberry Cooler and Honeydew Shake, take advantage of the late-summer fruit harvest. Others, like the Chocolate Mocha-Mint Shake, use ice milk and skim milk to make a low-fat version of an old favorite.

Here are a few drinks selected with more texture, color and flavor than that same old diet soda ever had.

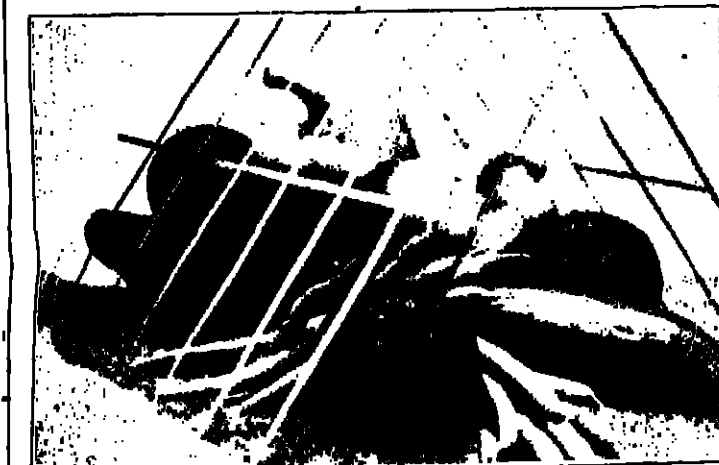
1/4 cup orange juice  
1/2 cup low-calorie lemon soda

Place berries and orange juice in a blender and puree until smooth. Put ice in a tall glass. Pour berry-juice mixture over ice and add lemon soda. Makes 1 serving.

Nutrition data per serving: 40 calories, 1 g protein, no fat, no cholesterol, 9 g complex carbohydrates, no sugar, 1 g dietary fiber, 20 mg sodium, 3 per cent calories from fat.

### Banana-Pineapple Colada

1/2 ripe banana  
1/2 cup fresh or canned pineapple  
1/2 cup pineapple juice  
1/2 cup ice cubes  
1/4 teaspoon coconut extract  
1 tablespoon sugar



### Cucumber-Mint Frappe

3 cucumbers  
2 teaspoons honey  
12 large fresh mint leaves (divided use)  
4 ice cubes, crushed

Peel the cucumbers, cut in half lengthwise and scrape out the seeds with a spoon. Cut into chunks and puree in a blender or food processor with the honey and 8 mint leaves. Add the ice and continue to puree until smooth. Pour into chilled goblets and garnish each with a mint leaf. Makes 4 (1/2-cup) servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 21 calories, no protein, no fat, no cholesterol, 2 g complex carbohydrates, 3 g sugar, 1 g dietary fiber, 2 mg sodium, 4 per cent calories from fat.

Treat yourself to a long, tall cold one without the guilt using these two recipes.

### Strawberry Cooler

1/4 cup halved strawberries, halved

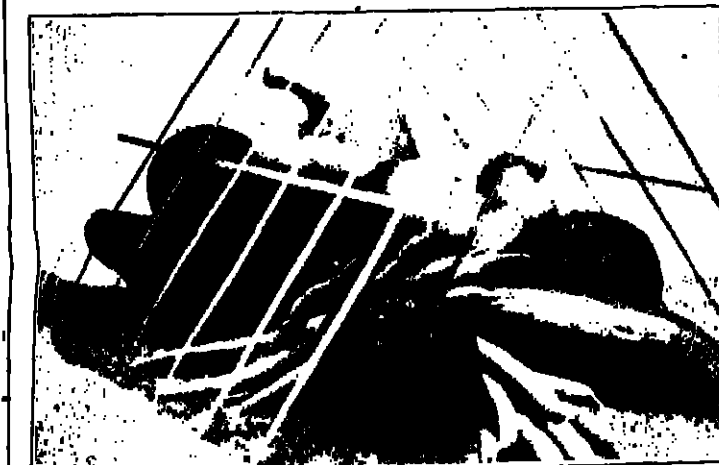
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Treat yourself to a long, tall cold one without the guilt using these two recipes.

### Strawberry Cooler

1/4 cup halved strawberries, halved

Makes 2 servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 196 calories, 5 g protein, 2 g fat, 44 g carbohydrates, 64 mg sodium, 5 mg cholesterol, 9 per cent calories from fat.

### Honeydew shake

1/2 cup vanilla yogurt, low-fat  
2 teaspoons sugar  
1 cup honeydew melon chunks, chilled

In blender or food processor, blend all ingredients thoroughly. Pour and serve. Makes 2 servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 96 calories, 3 g protein, 1 g total fat, 4 mg cholesterol, 12 g complex carbohydrates, 8 g sugar, 1 g dietary fiber, 48 mg sodium, 8 per cent calories from fat.

### Raspberry-Watermelon Slush

1 cup frozen raspberries  
1 cup watermelon, seeded  
1 cup lemon-lime fizzy drink  
1 tablespoon sugar

In blender or food processor, mix all ingredients thoroughly. Serve immediately. Makes 2 servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 127 calories, 1 g protein, 1 g total fat, no cholesterol, 13 g complex carbohydrates, 18 g sugar, 5 g dietary fiber, 15 mg sodium, 4 per cent calories from fat.

### Red Grape Cooler

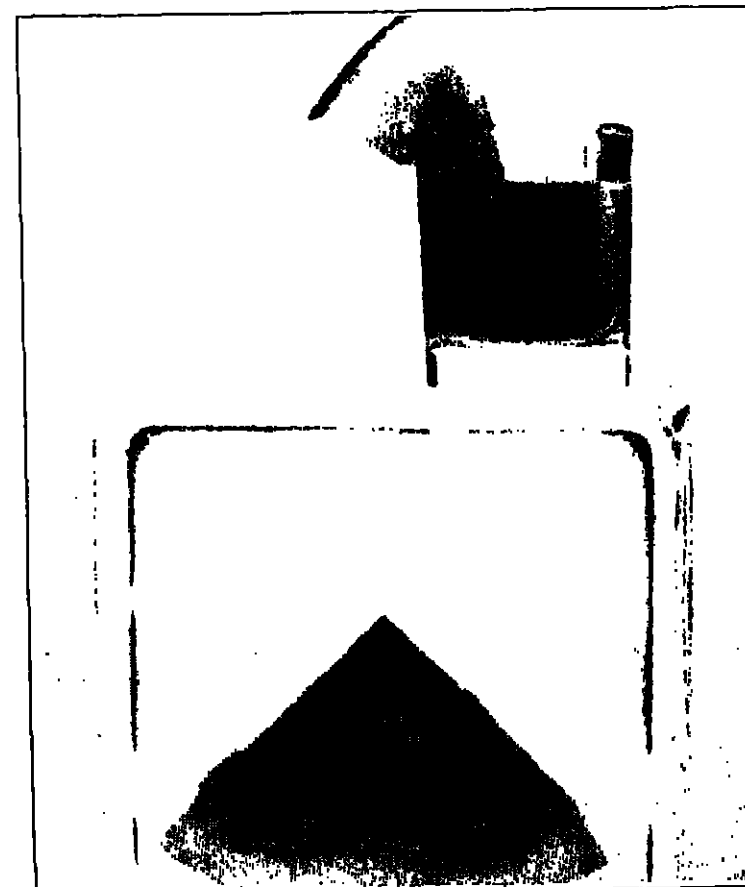
1 cup red grapes  
2 cups club soda  
1 tablespoon sugar

In blender or food processor, mix ingredients thoroughly. Strain and serve over ice. Makes 2 servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 54 calories, no protein, no fat, no cholesterol, 9 g complex carbohydrates, 6 g sugar, no dietary fiber, 61 mg sodium, 2 per cent calories from fat.

### Chocolate Mocha-Mint Shake

And if you still have that chocolate malt on your mind but don't want it to show on your body, try this low-cal version.



2 cups strong cold coffee  
1 cup chocolate ice milk  
1 cup skim milk  
4 ice cubes

1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract  
2 tablespoons crushed hard peppermint candy

Combine cold coffee, ice milk, skim milk, ice cubes and peppermint extract in blender container; cover and process until smooth. Pour serving glasses and sprinkle evenly with crushed peppermint candy. Serve immediately. Makes 4 servings.

Nutrition data per serving: 112 calories, 3 g protein, 2 g total fat (1 g saturated fat), 6 mg cholesterol, 7 g complex carbohydrates, 15 g sugar, 11 dietary fiber, 61 mg sodium, 11 per cent calories from fat.

per cent calories from fat.

### Papaya-Banana Smoothie

2 papayas  
1/2 banana  
4 crushed ice cubes (1/2 cup crushed ice)

Peel and seed the papayas; cut into chunks. Peel and slice the banana. Puree the papaya and banana in a blender or food processor, add the ice and continue to puree until smooth. Pour into chilled glasses and serve at once.

Makes 4 (1/2 cup) servings.  
Nutrition data per serving: 72 calories, 1 g protein, no fat, no cholesterol, 18 g complex carbohydrates, no sugar, 2 g dietary fiber.

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## Agenda

### Films

● The French Film Festival continues at the Royal Cultural Center. The two remaining films are "Jacquet De Nantes" on Thursday, 4 June and "Un Week-End Sur Deux" on Friday, 5 June. Both films start at 8:00 pm and are subtitled in English. Tickets for JD 2 (students JD 1).

● The American Center will be showing two films this week. On

Thursday 4 June, "To Catch a Thief", starring Grace Kelly and on Sunday 7 June the movie "Rear Window" also starring Grace Kelly. Both films start at 7:00 pm.

### Exhibitions

● The Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation is exhibiting paintings by Ali Taleb and Kate Naser until 18 June from Saturday to Thursday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

### Lectures

● The Goethe-Institut will present a lecture given by Dr. Insan Fathi entitled "Yemen: An

Architectural Journey". Dr. Fathi will present his lecture at 7:00 pm on Saturday 7 June.

● CERMOC will be presenting a lecture by Dr. Kamal Jaluka, entitled "The role of Interest Groups on Urban Design in Amman". The lecture will be presented on 4 June at 6:00 pm.

● The Muslim Women Activity Group will present a lecture entitled "The Glory of God's Creation". The lecture will be presented by Dr. Fahmi Mahmoud at the Islamic Hospital, Abdulla Azam Hall at 10:00 am on 4 June.



# The Star's TV GUIDE

Programs on  
Jordan  
Television  
from  
30 May -  
5 June

## ENGLISH PROGRAM

## SATURDAY

8:30 — Super Bloopers  
9:00 — Encounter. Interview with Dr Adnan Heider  
9:30 — Environment  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Drug Wars II. Mini series

## SUNDAY

8:30 — Wings. It's the thought not the gift  
9:10 — Documentary: "One Child One Voice". A documentary answers the question. Is it too late to save our planet and ourselves from total destruction?  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Drug War II. Mini series

## MONDAY

8:30 — Close to Home. Episode 2  
9:10 — Capital City  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Gold. Johnny is chasing Henry who faked the story of the gold mine, when they meet they cooperate to save Lily  
TUESDAY  
8:30 — Acropolis now. New comedy  
9:10 — Palace Guard  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Movie: Three Coins in the fountain. Three American girls find romance in Rome. Starring Dorothy McGuire and Jean Peters

## WEDNESDAY

8:30 — European Cup Opening Ceremony From Sweden. A football match between Yugoslavia and England  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — A Tale of Two Cities

## THURSDAY

8:30 — The Simpsons  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Movie of the Week: Near Mrs. Starring Judge Reinhold & Casey Siemasko

## FRIDAY

8:30 — Coach  
9:10 — European Cup Football  
10:00 — News in English  
10:20 — Chief Inspector Morse

## FRENCH PROGRAM

## SAMEDI

6:00 — Les Tortues Ninja  
6:25 — Le Dessous de cartes. A documentary program  
6:30 — La Gymnastique. Lucie continues her gymnastics training  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — Magazine E-M6

## DIMANCHE

5:30 — Michel Vaillant  
5:50 — Des Chiffres et des Lettres  
6:10 — L'Ecole des fans. Children sing the songs of their favorite singers  
7:00 — News in French  
7:00 — Carnet de notes. A program on classical music

## LUNDI

6:00 — Le Jeu des animaux  
6:10 — Le Monde sous Marin de Jacques Yves Cousteau  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — The Weekly Sports



A scene from Gold, at 10:20 Monday

## MAGAZINE

## MARDI

6:00 — Les aventures de Joe  
6:10 — Les Tortues Ninja  
6:30 — Marc et Sophie  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — A selection of French songs

## MERCREDI

6:00 — Le monde est à vous. A variety and cultural program  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — Carrevert. A documentary program

## JEUDI

6:00 — Les Sanctuaires sauvages. A documentary program about animals  
6:30 — Maguy  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — Le Cirque du Soleil. International circus

## VENDREDI

5:30 — Docteur Teyran. The last episode of this series  
7:00 — News in French  
7:15 — Fusions. A cultural program

## HOME MOVIES

■ "CAPE FEAR" (MCA/Universal) Robert De Niro was a recent Oscar nominee for Martin Scorsese's effective remake of the 1962 thriller, about an ex-con who seeks vengeance on the lawyer (Nick Nolte) who didn't do enough to keep him out of jail. Jessica Lange and young Juliette Lewis — who has a smashing scene with De Niro co-star, the original film's Gregory Peck and Robert Mitchum also appear. ★★ (R: AS, P, V)



Robert De Niro in Cape Fear

■ "ILICIT BEHAVIOR" (Prism) Available in two versions, this melodrama features Jack ("Tequila & Bonetti") Scalia as a police officer suspended for alleged brutality, making home life tough for his wife ("Wiseguy's" Joan Severance)... who has a scheme up her sleeve. Robert Davi, of "License to Kill" and "Predator 2," plays an internal-affairs man. ★★ (R: AS, P, V)

■ "PHANTOM OF THE RITZ" (Prism) The latest of numerous variations on the classic "Phantom of the Opera," this updating focuses on mysterious happenings at an old theater that has been purchased for renovation... a plan that someone — or something — evidently doesn't approve of. Peter Bergman, of daytime TV's "The Young and

the Restless," and Deborah Van Valkenburgh star. ★★ (R: AS, P, V)

■ "NAKED LUNCH" (Fox) Peter Weller stars in director David Cronenberg's highly off beat film of the equally unusual William Burroughs novel (R).

## RATINGS:

★ - don't bother, ★★ - not bad, ★★★ - worth seeing, ★★★★ - excellent.

FAMILY VIEWING GUIDE KEY: P - profanity; V - violence; GV - particularly graphic violence; AS - adult situations.

## HOROSCOPE

★★★★★★★★★

ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Your problem all this week is your temper. Make it work for you; it's a source of great power.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): The middle of the week should be best for you. Visit a kindred spirit over the weekend.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): You'll have fun all week, although some days are better than others. Make a major change.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): Distractions could take up most of your time. Everybody is going to be in the mood to talk!

LEO (23 July - 22 August): The first and last of this week are the best for you. Gather your thoughts and sell them.

VIRGO (23 August - 22 September): A change could throw you for a loop. You'll get back in control. Avoid egomaniacs around dinner-time.

LIBRA (23 September - 22 October): A brilliant mind is out there, just waiting to bump into yours. If you don't know where to look, try the library.

SCORPIO (23 October - 21 November): The walls will have ears, so watch what you say! You'll get a lucky surprise, and you might get an unlucky one.

SAGITTARIUS (22 November - 21 December): Love beckons this week. Be on the lookout for a person who's as hard to pin down as you are!

CAPRICORN (22 December - 19 January): Do lots of business to make up for the time you lose early in the week. The weekend will be good for bookkeeping.

AQUARIUS (20 January - 18 February): Things are starting to speed up for you. Those months of study are going to turn into public acknowledgment!

PISCES (19 February - 20 March): Confusion could be the rule rather than the exception. Focus on one bright light, a friend who always makes you feel better.

■ IF YOU WERE BORN THIS WEEK: You're an inquisitive, intelligent person. You never know enough, even if you do manage to read all the books in the public library. This year use that voracious mind of yours to acquire a skill that will make you indispensable!

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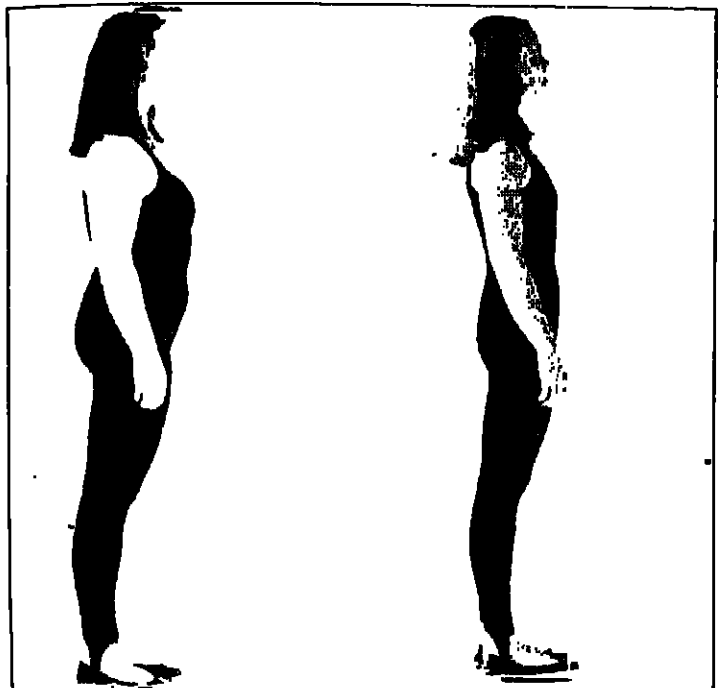
## YOUR HEALTH

### CALORIE COUNTDOWN

## Fat-fighting Tips

■ Skipping breakfast has been demonstrated to interfere with mental functions in many research projects. What dieters also should know about the effects of missing the morning meal is it can wreak havoc with

diet margarine to save as much as 80 calories per serving. Have "light" cheese slices instead of regular cheese and cut back in 30 calories per ounce. Use "oil-free" salad dressings to trim as many as 90 calories per tablespoon from your daily calorie count. Drink "diet" soda to eliminate 148 calories per 12-ounce glass from your tally. "Light" cream cheese can save you 50 calories per tablespoon. Try



your weight-loss efforts. Recent studies have proven that most people who disdain the first meal of the day take in more calorie dense food overall than those who eat a nutritional breakfast. There also is evidence that our bodies use calories less efficiently when we consume them in the afternoon, evening and night. A word to the wise (dieter): Skipping breakfast can be fattening not eating in the morning may cause you to eat more high-calorie foods later in the day when your body tends to store more calories more readily. If you're not hungry when you first wake up, just have some tomato or vegetables juice, then eat some whole grain bread or crackers, a piece of fruit and a hard boiled egg at midmorning when you start to get an appetite.

■ So many of our favorite everyday foods are now available in "dieter-friendly" versions. You can save hundreds of calories a day by switching to the "light" or "diet" versions of your favorite foods. Switch from butter to

skim, low-fat or non-fat dairy products - like milk, cottage cheese and yogurt - to reduce your overall calorie intake. Add up the calorie savings and you'll discover that it's worth making the change.

■ Dieters who have cravings for pasta needn't eschew this favorite food. New research shows that such longings for carbohydrate-rich foods may be psychological as well as physical. Noodles, spaghetti and macaroni can alter your mood as well as filling you up at a reasonable calorie count (about 100 calories per cup of cooked pasta). The findings show that high carbohydrate foods can induce calmness and may elevate the mood of people who are depressed. Tomato sauce with fresh herbs makes a delicious spaghetti sauce and fresh steamed vegetables tossed with cooked noodles is an excellent diet dish that may lift your mood while keeping your calorie count low.



### KEEPING FIT

Exercise is often prescribed along with therapy for emotional problems such as depression. But some people use exercise to avoid facing their problems or to self-treat symptoms of anxiety, depression and eating disorders. "Exercise is good, but there's a line where it crosses over into creating as many problems as their disorders," says Dr Rebecca Prussin, a co-author of "Hooked on Exercise How to Understand and Manage Exercise Addiction," (Fire-side/Parkside).

Observers find exercise "gives them a sense of control and power over themselves," she said. "For people who are anxious, their anxiety level actually decreases. And someone who is slightly phobic can get out and face the world."

Bulimics - people who binge and purge - often use exercise as a substitute for purging. "So instead of vomiting or using a diuretic they'll go and run," she said. "I tell depressed people to exercise. It's a very useful tool and it is an anti-depressant. People find in the beginning that running makes them feel better."



"But where self-treatment or self-medicating your wound becomes a problem is when it's used to avoid dealing with the real issues."

"You don't look at the underlying problem, so it remains or gets worse," Prussin explained. The key is to use exercise productively, not as an escape mechanism.

"Exercise can be a priority, but when the other aspects of your life suffer you have to take a second look and see just how important it has become," Prussin said. "Ask yourself: Is it stepping on the toes of important parts of my life?"

## ODDITIES



Sumo wrestling star Konishiki 'battles' a London youngster during an exhibition at the Royal Albert Hall last week to publicize the first official Sumo Tournament ever held outside Japan.



■ As part of the Plaza Hotel's extra curricular activities and with the aim of creating a spirit for good workmanship and better creativity, the management and staff of the Amman Plaza went on a spring trip to Ajloun. Acting General Manager, Ammar Kana'an accompanied the group, and everyone enjoyed the Ajloun scenic and historic sites.



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## TOP ENTERTAINMENT HITS

## TOP POP SINGLES

1. Jump, Kriss Kross, Columbia
2. Tears in Heaven, Eric Clapton, Reprise
3. Save the Best for Last, Vanessa Williams, Wing
4. Ain't 2 Proud 2 Beg, TLC, Arista
5. Bohemian Rhapsody, Queen, Hollywood
6. Under the Bridge, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Warner Bros.
7. Live and Learn, Joe Public, Columbia
8. Everything About You, Ugly Kid Joe, Mercury
9. Hazard, Richard Marx, Capitol
10. My Lovin', En Vogue, A&M

## TOP VIDEO RENTALS

1. The Last Boy Scout, Bruce Willis, Damon Wayans, Warner Home Video (R-1991)
2. Boyz n the Hood, Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding Jr., Columbia TriStar Home Video (R-1991)
3. The Fisher King, Robin Williams, Jeff Bridges, Columbia TriStar Home Video (R-1991)
4. Rambling Rose, Laura Dern, Diane Ladd, Live Home Video (R-1991)
5. Shattered, Tom Berenger, Greg Kinnear, MGM/UA Home Video (R-1991)
6. Ricochet, Denzel Washington, John Lithgow, HBO Video (R-1991)
7. Dead Again, Kenneth Branagh, Emma Thompson, Paramount Home Video (R-1991)
8. Deceived, Goldie Hawn, John Heard, Touchstone Home Video (R-1991)
9. Carley Sue, Allison Porter, Jim Belushi, Warner Home Video (PG-1991)
10. Other People's Money, Danny DeVito, Penelope Ann Miller, Warner Home Video (R-1991)



Jeff Bridges in The Fisher King



